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Cover

34 Why do men do it?

A recent spate of brutal
murders has spurred
debate over disturbing new
theories about male
violence. In one such
grizzly incident, Vance
Lafu, of Kitchener, Ont.,
killed his wife Deborah
and their four children,
including son Daniel, be-
fore shooting himself. The
killings are often a final
act of escalating abuse.
Their frequent victims—
women and children—
live in fear even when
they flee to a shelter.



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Special Report

12 Ottawa pays up

With Health Minister Allan Rock about to restore major
federal funding to the beleaguered health-care system, the
question arises: can money alone fix the problems?



20 After the disaster

The tragic crash of a Concorde jumbo
near Paris, killing 114 people, may well mark
a turning point in aviation history.



44 They might be giants

Swimmer Mike Muscenko and other Canadian Olympic
rockies aren't likely to win many medals in Sydney. But the
experience could lay the foundation for future success.



ROGERS
MEDIA

Editor

A week of pain and progress

Nuclear's bureau was especially busy last week preparing three major reports on tight deadlines for the current issue. The cover story on domestic violence grew out of a month's series of angry murders of women and took Vancouver-based Correspondent Chris Wood on a chilling exploration of male rage. London-based Bureau Chief Barry Gane flew to Paris to report on the crash of the Concorde. And in Ottawa, Bureau Chief John Golden mined his federal and provincial sources for a revealing look at efforts to settle the health-care impasse.

Wood's article deals with the alarming frequency of recent cases and a new Statistics Canada study released last week on the scope and nature of domestic violence. While the actual number of incidents has declined, the concern of abused spouses, their loved ones and agencies trying to help them is, if anything, heightened by the recent spate of murders. In an excellent column, Anthony Wilson-Smith looks at the phenomenon that first of crime scenes to be mined, even though actual rates are on the decline.

As for his assignment, Wood says: "If there is a message in this world story, it is that our entire gender seems to carry something very like the libidinal angst of Cain." He adds: "Clearly, if we hope to reduce the toll of women killed by their partners we need to do more than cleanse the environment that influences men. Researchers need to get past their obsession to biology and look inside the men himself."

The cover package, overseen by Section Editor Barbara Winkler and designed by Associate Art Director

Gisèle Séguin, also includes a moving account of a visit by Commissioner Cheryl Hawkins to a shelter for battered women.

Canoe's grisly assignment in Paris coincided with a major air show in England where several aircraft manufacturers, including Canada's Bombardier Inc., did a roaring trade in new jets. In contrast to the doomed Concorde, the planes of the future are designed to be bigger and slower—one of them with 550 seats. In addition to the intense personal tragedies, the crash of



Wood (left), Gane, Golden: right deadlines

Air France Flight 4590 heralded the end of a dream about high-speed flight. Ironically, after 31 years of crash-free flying, quinquiesse here attest about the safety of Concorde's unique design, Nacer Gane. "That is probably one of the reasons why there was a palpable sense of loss in both France and Britain beyond the mourning over the victims, as if the French and British were witnessing the passing of yet another symbol of past glories."

For several months, Ottawa Editor John Golden has been keeping his notebook open on intermittent talks between the federal government and provinces about health care. In peering together behind the scenes efforts to resolve the impasse, he discovered that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien is determined to put enough money back on the table

to buy peace. In the process, Health Minister Allan Rock dreams of a national home-care plan has been dashed—at a time when increasing numbers of Canadians are having to deal with the crisis of caring for their aging parents.

But, as Golden notes, "The promise of a multibillion-dollar infusion of federal money has done wonders for the mood surrounding health care. Everyone I talked to, from cardiac surgeons to clinic nurses, believes a corner has been turned." Not so Allan Rock. He has been left having to bargain with provinces that already know they can turn him down and still get the cash. Golden concludes: "For a guy who wanted to make his mark as a visionary in social health care, it has to be a demanding position."

As for the weeks ahead, several interesting features are in the works. Later this month, there will be an expanded section on the new technology that is about to change our lives. Then, business Jack Granatstein and Norman Hillier will weigh in with a report on 25 Canadians who changed the course of world events. In September, an expanded magazine will include a special section on the Summer Games in Sydney, Australia. It is hard to believe that 25 years ago when *Maclean's* changed its format, some people actually said there would not be enough material to fill a Canadian newspaper.

Robert Lewis

response@maclean.ca or comment on Press the Editor



When leukemia laid him low, biotechnology helped get him up and running again.

"I'm back at school. Back with my friends. I'm playing sports this year!"

—Matthew Whitaker, 2nd grader

So, years ago, Matthew Whitaker was diagnosed with leukemia. Matthew loved to run, but the disease left him weak and tired. Now, thanks to a medicine developed using biotechnology, his disease is in remission. And Matthew is back on the race.

Today biotechnology is helping to create more effective medicines for diseases such as leukemia. And it's improving lives in other ways.

Biotechnology allows farmers to choose the best combination of ways to help grow their crops. It helps corn farmers use fewer chemicals to protect against certain pests, and is providing ways for developing countries to better feed a growing population. And, in the future, it can help farmers grow better quality, more nutritious food.

Biotechnology is helping create solutions that are improving lives today and solutions that could improve our world tomorrow. If you're interested in learning more, visit our Web site or call the number below for a free brochure about biotechnology and agriculture.

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Edited by Shanda Drexel

Over and Under Achievers

Jumpin' Joe Clark and splitting the Playboy vote

Tory leader goes East, Bush and Gore cope with odd bedfellows, *Death Row* becomes a hot topic

♦ **Joe Clark:** Last month, he seemed a cowboy hat and challenged *Stoddard Day* in High Noon in Calgary. Now he's going to shoot fish in a by-election based in Nova Scotia. Age, age, cap'n.

♦ **George W. Bush:** He chose Dick Cheney as his running mate because he was safe and reliable. But in the bargain, he got Cheney's feminist-banking wife and their lesbian daughter. That should keep the Democrats confused.

♦ **Al Gore:** Says devotees from *High Hopes* are leader but a fundraiser at the Playboy mansion is not. Another successful graduate from Clinton's Oval-Sex-to-Non-Sex School of Hamplating.

♦ **Carlewi tech:** An Ottawa artist riled *Touching Up the Jesus* shows Canadians lag behind the Americans in cellphone use, Internet shopping, and high-tech innovation. Yeah, but watch out—our military may get new helicopters.

♦ **Courthouse seats on Death Row:** Some U.S. states, such as Arizona, now advertise to attract students to execution. Next, they'll be tendering contracts for the execution stands.



Woods program targets underprivileged youth

Rowe, director of the National Junior Golf Foundation in Toronto, "every kid who wants to be Tiger Woods." And his classes, which target underprivileged youth living in high-crime areas, are overflowing with Tiger wannabes—from

Tiger cubs on his tail

Tiger Woods caused a commotion in Kitchener, Ont., last week—but not on the golf course. Young fans living from trees trying to get a glimpse of the young superstar shooting a commercial for Budweiser, Nike has followed up in popular "Be like Mike" TV commercial with an equally seductive "I am Tiger Woods" spot. Like Michael Jordan, Woods is a natural role model. The 24-year-old is of Thai, African-American and native lineage, loves his parents, respects his peers and just won the British Open. According to *Kingsley*

as young as four years old. In his program, Rowe focuses on more than just the skills of the game. "Gold," says Rowe, "teaches honesty and integrity." And he connected American Lee Elder, the first African-American pro golfer to play in the Masters, to give his students firsthand inspiration. "Lee Elder was a daddy and was very very poor—unkle Tiger," says Rowe. "He was able to get out of the shame. He was the forerunner to Tiger Woods." Now, with Woods setting his own pace, it seems the dog's heart.

Horse-trading in the nation's capital

A museum spurs controversy by putting a beloved rug out to pasture

A bit of horseplay on the part of a national museum has drawn the ire of what may be Ottawa's youngest protesters. Recently, *Mike the Clydesdale*, a popular attraction at the Canada Agriculture Museum, was put

out to pasture. No longer able to pull the sulky wagon or work the fields, the 2,000-lb., charcoal-brown horse, who has hip and circulatory problems, was sold to a Clydesdale breeding farm near Kitchener, Ont., for \$500 in part of its pedigree dad that brought two younger horses to the museum.



Mike the Clydesdale horses

But the museum gave no warning of Mike's abrupt departure to his legion of young fans. The result was a flood of letters to the Ottawa Citizen, blaming the museum for its lack of consideration for its young patrons. The letters referred to "hearted toddlers" and "wails on the children's hearts." And the children re-

acted with a vengeance. The museum has since the children to wean it down a goodbye note to Mike. But little Mike is not appeased. "I think writing a letter to the farm is stupid," she wrote in the Citizen, "because horses can't read."

Laurel MacBarnay

Don't kill the messenger

Everyone complains about the flood of messages at his office, but Canadians are learning to cope. According to an annual *Playboy* Bionics Inc. study, 21 per cent of office workers "feel overwhelmed" by the volume of e-mails and calls they receive, down from 28 per cent last year. Also down is the number of messages received daily, from 189 to 181.

The number of messages a typical Canadian office worker sends and receives in a day, by method of delivery:

Telephone	43	Post-it notes	7
E-mail	33	Telephone message slips	6
Voice mail	31	Pager	6
Postal mail	21	Cellular phone	5
Interoffice mail	14	Courier	5
Fax	12	Total messages	161

Overhites

"It is really a question of whether you legislate your aims for short-term cash. The future whippersnappers, the present shows."

—Robert Kennedy Jr., arguing for the preservation of British Columbia's Great Bear Rainforest

"You're getting a two-for-one deal here. It's kind of a modern-day Batman and Robin. But I'm not wearing tights."

—Ray MP Scott Brison explaining his decision to stop made to let his leader, Joe Clark, run for office in his Nova Scotia riding of Kings/Hants



Salute to smokebusters

The crusade to warn against the dangers of tobacco smoke started back in the 1960s, when former U.S. surgeon-general Luther L. Terry first began to raise awareness of its ill effects. Four decades later, the fight continues. On Aug. 10, the American Cancer Society will give its name to the tobacco-based Non-Smokers' Rights' Association. The award, which will be presented to NSRA executive-director Garfield Mahood at the World Conference on Tobacco or Health in Chicago, recognizes the NSRA's role in the development of warning notices on cigarette packages.

Founded in 1974, the NSRA has spearheaded government legislation on Canadian smoking bans. But battling "big tobacco" has never been easy. "An industry with deep pockets does a great deal to discredit the opposition," says Mahood. "This award helps put that criticism in perspective."

Wanted for a bank job

The chance to succeed Bank of Canada governor *Garden Thibault* when he retires next January has become one of the hottest seats in Ottawa. A third candidate, deputy minister of health David Dodge, is now in the ring with the two main contenders, Royal Bank chief economist John McCaffren and the central bank's deputy governor, Malcolm Knight. The veteran Dodge, who came up largely through the ranks of the finance department, knows the stodgy bank's methods of setting mon-



Dodge fresh

etary policy—but could still bring a fresh approach to the prestigious position. *Maclean's* has learned that Dodge turned down several high-profile jobs at private institutions within the past year after appeals from the Prime Minister's Office.

The poliostrator over him. And for four years, until 1997, he worked closely and shyly with Finance Minister Paul Martin as his deputy minister—so he would maintain the all-important confidence of financial markets. "He would be a perfect fit," says an insider, praising dramatically. "If he wants it," they turned.

PASSAGES

Died: Eric Christmas, 84, was often panned over for leading roles but shone as a supporting comedic actor. The London native emigrated to Canada in 1948 and soon got work on the CBC Radio program, *The Wilson and Stewart Show*. He performed at the Stratford Festival in Ontario throughout much of his career and appeared on Broadway in Noel Coward's 1959 production *Look After Lulu*. A veteran of film and television, he played his final role as a guest on the hit series *Ally McBeal*. Christmas had been suffering from prostate cancer and died in his home in Camarillo, Calif.



Married: Jennifer Aniston and Paul Pitt, two of Hollywood's most beautiful people, exchanged vows near the ocean in Malibu, Calif., in front of 200 guests. Aniston, the 31-year-old star of *Friends*, was previously involved with actor Tate Donovan, while Pitt, 36, and Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow broke off an engagement three years ago.

Resigned: After four years as Canada's consul-general in Los Angeles, former prime minister Kim Campbell, 55, has announced she will not be taking another posting this September. Instead, she and partner Humphrey Fiddler, a 31-year-old classically trained pianist, will split their time between the

West and East Coasts of the United States. "For three years, Hershey has been flexible when it comes to my schedule," says Campbell, "now it's my turn to be flexible." Campbell has already agreed with a Washington agent who will line up speaking engagements for her. She is thinking about writing another book and will assume the chairwoman of the Council of Women World Leaders, based at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Longtime foreign service officer Colin Robertson has been appointed to replace Campbell.

Died: Murray Ross, 90, was the founding president of Toronto's York University in 1960—and held the university's top position until becoming a decade later. Before that, the avid tennis player from Sydney, N.S., was a vice-president at the University of Toronto. He wrote 12 books on education and community organizations. Ross died in Toronto.

Died: Geoffrey Weller, 58, founding president of the University of Northern British Columbia, was interested in promoting development in the north. He oversaw the first-year construction of UNBC—and was on hand when Queen Elizabeth II opened the university in 1994. He stepped down the following year, devoting himself to teaching at the university—which now has 3,300 students. During his tenure, British-born Weller and B.C. Hindu artist Bill Reid established an endowment fund for the education of First Nations artists. Weller died in Prince George, B.C., after a short illness.

Died: Forty-seven years after an unsuccessful audition at the first Stratford Festival, Montreal-born actor George Spaldino, 68, won the role of Anna's father, Otto Frank, in this season's production of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Campbell once chastised Canada's neglect of its artistic talent; he worked in theatre and film in England and the United States—and had roles on such popular TV shows as *Charlie's Angels*, *Calvin and Hobbes* and *Mission Impossible*. He was forced Spaldino to pull out of the Stratford production after his opening-night performance. He died of cancer while visiting relatives in Bridgehampton, N.Y.



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Anthony Wilson-Smith

Overemphasizing crime

One of the great comedic scenes of modern times takes place in the 1977 Woody Allen movie *Annie Hall*, in which Allen and Diane Keaton play an embittered couple who tell their friends how often they have sex. "Constantly!" says Keaton's character. "I'd say three times a week." On the other hand, says Allen's character: "Hardly ever. Maybe three times a week." No matter how many times people see the movie, this exchange always elicits a knowing laugh.

In the language of shenkla, that kind of situation is known as "close in discrepancy"—the two sides agree on the numbers, but extrapolate entirely different conclusions. The same thing applies to the way we look at crime-related issues in Canada. Statistics Canada recently released its annual snapshot of crime statistics. For the eighth straight year, the number of crimes—other than drug and traffic offences—fell. That's the longest consecutive stretch since Statistics Canada began collecting such data 36 years ago. The overall crime level dipped to its lowest in 20 years. Youth crime—everyone's bugaboo—dropped seven per cent overall, with a five-per-cent decline in violent crime by youths. The rate of homicide (youth and adult)—1.8 per 100,000 population last year—is the lowest since 1967.

Given that, you might think politicians and law-enforcement officials would do the obvious thing: in the face of positive circumstances, stop agonizing and try to figure out a way to solve crime. Instead, reactions ranged from disbelief to discomfiture. (Ironically, the only person who appeared agnostic in media coverage was a municipal official in Regina, which has one of the country's highest crime rates. He declared proudly that because the figures are based on reported crimes, it shows that local residents are more crime-minded than most.) On open-line shows, people declared flatly that the numbers—based on police statistics—are wrong, and the country is more dangerous than ever. Toronto police Chief John Farranto, whose city is statistically one of the safest in North America, said he was concerned the numbers would "tell people there's a fake sense of security." Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman said he'll base his re-election campaign on a program of "zero-crime initiatives, which might seem more appropriate if the numbers were going up rather than down. Naturally, I don't plan to do the same, although I'd be very happy if 'if these statistics are true, it's wonderful'."

The funny thing about the war on crime is that it's never clear who is supposed to be fighting for the other side. Social conservatives versus the Left in politics, and therefore vilified, but these are problems with that. One is that there's not much of a Leftist anywhere these days, so the befuddled few who remain are scarcely worth picking on. Another problem is

that even among the hard Lefties, you'll be hard-pressed to find many who are, say, in favor of more crime, or of dismantling police forces. Instead, they're more likely to ask for more money for the homicide, or higher welfare rates to avert crimes caused by desperation. You can call these ideas wasteful and woolly-minded. But they hardly make their proponents friends of crime. Farranto, a genuinely well-meaning and committed cop, nonetheless deserves some kind of rudeness for picking for excessive rhetoric for declaring that whenever crime rates come down, people say: "Let's pillage and rape the police budget" and "why do they need more resources?" What people say—outside of, perhaps, in-mom-in-pennsylvania?

Well, it's easy to understand Farranto. Like any CIBO, he has a vested interest in ensuring that he keeps his budget at acceptable levels, so he takes pre-emptive action. Then, as a side secondary factor that has led to do with actual crime, but everything to do with our attitudes towards it. We hear and are so much about violent crime in the United States—either the real kind on the news or the cool drama of shows like *Law & Order*—that we adopt these problems as our own. Lots of people here, for example, think that if arrested, they can demand that "Miranda rights"—the obligation for the police to read them their rights before arresting them. But that's an American requirement that does not apply here. And we in the media are quick, particularly in the midst of a newspaper war, to emphasize crime stories at the expense of other issues. If it bleeds, as they say on the TV news side, it leads. Crime sells newspapers and magazines.

We're also, as criminologists note, an older nation demographically than we used to be, and that makes a difference in two ways. There still are many 15- to 24-year-olds in there were 30 years ago, on a per capita basis. But for the rest of us, the more serious look all the more so we age. It's human nature to fear more in the 40s or 50s than in our 20s.

No one is saying the war on crime is over, or even will be. It's fair to note, as cops do, that some crimes go unreported—and therefore, the Statistics Canada numbers may be low. But it should be possible to look at the upside. Despite all the fuss about Canada's supposedly ridiculous compensation would lead to more conflict and unrest, there's little statistical evidence of that. It also wouldn't hurt to give cops some credit: maybe, contrary to the old line, there are now *second* more often than not when you need one. Finally, what happens if everyone keeps insisting the stats are wrong, and we're descending into chaos? What's best served if law-abiding people become so scared of life on the streets that they stay off them? Let that happen, and the bad guys and gals

Turning Point

The money is about to flow again for health care, but is that the whole solution?

By John Godden

If some of the grimmer predictions for health care in Canada had come to pass, nurse Evelyn Fries would not be on the job these days in the Ottawa Hospital. Fries, now 32, was one of the hundreds of young Canadian nurses drawn to the United States in the 1990s when Canadian hospital budgets felt the squeeze from deficit-fighting governments. Her specialty as a critical-care nurse made her a valuable prize. Why would she ever come back to the strained Canadian system after the glitz of the lavishly funded world of U.S. private medicine? Yet there she was last week, taking a brief break in the coffee room off the intensive-care ward, reflecting on her return in June to Ontario after four years in Florida, and her pleasure at seeing the situation improving. "You couldn't have run this system on much less than they were," Fries recalls of the cash-strapped conditions in Canada when she left in 1996. "Now, it seems to be turning around—we're starting to rebalance it."

This hopeful note from outside the system comes as a surprisingly upbeat mood spreads through Canada's health-care system. The main reason: money. Following federal Health Minister Allan Rock's July 20 meeting with his provincial counterparts, Ottawa is finally committed to pouring billions back into health transfers to the provinces. The exact amount will not be clear until Prime Minister Jean Chrétien meets with the premiers in September, but the provinces are confident it will not be far off their demand for an additional \$4.2 billion a year. That would, by their estimates, lift the annual federal

contribution back to where it was before Ottawa launched its battle to eliminate the deficit. Just as important, in the eyes of provincial politicians, is the fact that the money will come with no conditions that they sign on to ambitious new schemes driven by Ottawa, such as Rock's cherished idea for a national home-care program.

With a dial clearly on the works, optimism has given way to optimism with head-spinning speed. Just days before Rock met with the provincial premiers, the Canadian Medical Association released a report that shook a finger at the politicians, scolding: "The system has become paralyzed at the political level by an obsession with assuaging blame for the current conditions." But last week, the CMA's president, Dr. Hugh Scully, had a more positive perspective. "The politicians are talking rather than shooting at each other," he told *Maclean's*. "There's a much more constructive dialogue going on." Similarly, the Canadian Nurses Association is no longer lecturing both levels of government, as it did in an open letter last spring, to "start putting the health of Canadians above political and financial concerns." Instead, CNA president Greta Lennie-Rodger had switched by last week to congratulating federal and provincial leaders for "frilly singing from the same songbook."

Or is the songbook empty? After all, cash, no matter how fast it delivers health care, is at the root of the federal-provincial dispute. Ottawa is promising billions beyond the \$15.5 billion being transferred this year to the provinces under the block funds known as the Canada Health and Social Transfer. Even this year's amount is well above the \$11-billion level to which the CHST sank in 1996, the toughest period of the Liberal effort to balance the federal books. So was Canada's "health-care crisis," as it has so often been called, really nothing a few billion dollars couldn't solve? Some respected authorities emphatically think so. "Your system is fine," Dr. Marco Angeli, the editor of the respected *New England Journal of Medicine* and a supporter of the Canadian system, assured the recent annual meeting of the B.C. Medical Association. "You just need more money in it."



Fries (right) with fellow nurse David Connors and patient Brian Kertley back in Canada as the health system recovers

In fact, evidence of a rebound in the system was apparent even before the latest surge in daily relations between Ottawa and the provinces over funding. Scully points with satisfaction to seven moves by provinces to boost the number of new doctors being educated in universities as a sign that physician shortages could soon be easing. As well, Ottawa has already stepped up funding for research, including more than \$65 million to launch the new Canadian Institute of Health Research in June, to lure home medical scientists who followed grant money to the United States. "We're seeing some reversal of the academic brain drain," says Scully. "We now see people coming back."

At the same time, several provinces have set up special funds to help hospitals cope with cases who have left. Fries returned after spending an interim posting treating financial bonuses for nurses to work in Ottawa. Her take-home pay is about the same, she says. As for the work, Fries feels that patients get quicker access to diagnostic tests and surgery in the United States, but closer, more individual attention from nurses in Canada.

Some observers are worried that the emphasis on managing funding in Canada threatens to delay badly needed reforms. Experts have long called for innovations to take into account

an aging population, the shift from hospitals to home care, and increasingly expensive drugs and diagnostic techniques. For nearly seven years, the federal Liberal health plan, or *Health Canada*, has been on an ambitious initiative to reform the health system, and ensuring public funding to meet health services delivered at home. Among these lofty goals are bold moves, unavoidable during the austerity-minded years of eliminating the deficit. But in an age of multi-billion-dollar annual federal surpluses, advocates of medicare expansion are looking for Ottawa to forge ahead with the bold ideas—not just pay rates on the spending up again.

Instead, Rock has at least temporarily returned on both the pharmaceutical and home-care fronts in the face of provincial reluctance to follow his lead. "It looks like the money will just be handed over," complains Timothee Sullivan, a Toronto health researcher and member of a voluntary pro-medicare advocacy group called Dialogue on Health Reform. "There is no reason why the federal government can't have some conditions on the transfer—for example, that the funds are used to serve basic medical for home care." Having long abandoned pharmaceutical unions because of the enormous cost implications, senior officials in Rock's department now concede they have, for now, stopped pushing the provinces for a home-care deal. They deny, though, that they have given up on the long-term goal. Officials say some kind of deal from the provinces in the direction of future home-care



Chrétien (left), Rock: the climate is right to deal with federal-provincial differences

issues comes as a surprisingly upbeat mood spreads through Canada's health-care system. The main reason: money. Following federal Health Minister Allan Rock's July 20 meeting with his provincial counterparts, Ottawa is finally committed to pouring billions back into health transfers to the provinces. The exact amount will not be clear until Prime Minister Jean Chrétien meets with the premiers in September, but the provinces are confident it will not be far off their demand for an additional \$4.2 billion a year. That would, by their estimates, lift the annual federal

'The real danger is that as we get money back in the system we go back to the same old patterns'

reform could emerge from their September meeting with Chiro, or even when the province meets next week with the Tripartite Minister in Winnipeg.

But that is far from guaranteed. With the boost in cash transfers all but assured, Ontario has little leverage to push any real change on provinces into new programs. "Is the province off? In one sense, yes," admits senior Health Canada official. "But we would prefer to think of it as establishing the environment in which the work could go ahead collaboratively." Another Health Canada official allows there is a risk of complacency now that the money battle over funding has subsided. "The real danger is that as we get money back into the system, we go back to the same old patterns," says the official, "just building up more space in hospitals, paying more in [doctors' and nurses'] salaries."

How much influence—if any—the federal government will have on exactly how the provinces spend the new money remains to be negotiated. Some provinces would like all the unplanned transfer funds devoted to the CHST, which provinces estimate spend as they see fit. But this is discussion about targeting some funding for special purposes. British Columbia has taken the lead in calling for a special pool to buy new equipment, such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners and other high-tech diagnostic tools. The Canadian Medical Association is also promoting the idea of a dedicated fund. It says \$474 billion would have to be set aside for capital and operating costs over three years just to bring Canada up to the average technological level of other industrialized countries.

Rock is also enthusiastic about upgrading the basic computer equipment used in hospitals. Among the groups leading his push to bring the information technology revolution to the health sector is the Canadian Association of Emergency Physicians. Dr. Diego Striolo, the association's Halifax-based president, says a key to making ERs more efficient—and reducing the sometimes long waits for treatment that symbolize the shortcomings of many Canadian hospitals—is putting in place computer systems to analyze how patients are treated, track the way resources (commonly long-track-of-how computers are needed). "You can go into any community in Canada," Striolo declares, "and find more sophisticated computer equipment in the Tim Horton than in the emergency department."

Despite such plans for extended spending, the provinces are generally reluctant to accept strings attached to money from Ottawa. Their core demand is for the additional \$4.2

billion a year, plus an "escalator" to automatically increase the transfer to keep pace with growing populations and other factors steadily driving up costs. "The federal position is, 'We'll give you back the base money, but we'll like it to go to particular areas,'" says Manitoba Health Minister Dave Chortak, current co-chairman of the council of health ministers with Rock. "That is only the modest part of the negotiation."

Tricky, but Chortak believes the danger is now rising for the differences to be worked out. Initially, he credits the angry outcry sparked earlier this year by Alberta Bill 11, which carved out a bigger role for private health-care companies in the province, with helping



Striolo, better computers at Tim Horton than in hospital emergency rooms

provincial politicians that they must come to terms. "Some of the controversy suggesting that we might lose our medical system has caused people to reaffirm their commitment to it," Chortak says. Both concluded last winter at the height of the Bill 11 debate showed public concern in Alberta over the future of health care is the province's success, and Premier Ralph Klein's personal approval rating plummeting—serving notice to all Canadian politicians that they must work with medicine at their own risk.

The debate helped convince federal Liberals to make health a centerpiece of their strategy for the decade. Clinton expected to call next spring. At Bill 11 made waves, the government quickly formed a special federal cabinet "reform committee" on health care. The powerful group included Rock, Finance Minister Paul Martin, four other ministers and Clinton's senior policy adviser, Eddie Goldenberg. Meanwhile, the provinces turned up the heat over funding

levels. At a meeting with provincial health ministers in late March, Rock asked for agreement first on the shape of reform before Ottawa would promise more money. They turned him down flat. Then, in early June, the issue spilled over into a meeting of federal and provincial social-service ministers, with the provinces vowing not to co-operate with a separate federal push for a new "children's agenda" until the health funding dispute was resolved.

Around that time, Chortak personally took control of the health file. In a series of conversations with province, he insisted that more money was on the way. Chortak and Klein emerged from a key meeting in Calgary in early June in a conciliatory mood, talking optimistically about a September five minutes' meeting that would tackle the funding question. Chortak says "there is no doubt" that Chortak's direct involvement and personal assurances that more money was coming "broke the logjam." By the time the health ministers met again on July 25, the atmosphere was positively buoyant. Still, some observers suggest Chortak's intervention left Rock with little room to bargain. "After Rock is, in my view, in a very, very weak position," says Sullivan of the Dialogue on Health Reform.

There is no much doubt that the provinces won the upper hand in the funding struggle. Yet Rock still has a few options left for putting his own stamp on the next stage of the health system's evolution. One promising idea he has championed is what is known as primary-care reform, the term used to describe a range of new ways for doctors to deal with patients on a routine basis. Although models vary, commonly discussed elements include physicians working for salaries, rather than a fee-for-service basis, in clinics that make better use of nurses and other health specialists from nonphysician professions.

The federal government has already taken a first step in encouraging provinces to experiment with primary-care reform. In 1997, Ottawa set aside \$150 million in a "health transition fund" to support 141 pilot projects across the country. One project, downtown Vancouver's Spectrum



Ottawa air ambulances call to dedicate more funds to major expenditures

Health clinic, opened five doctors with a support group that includes nurses, a social worker, a pharmacist and administrative staff. The clinic serves about 4,000 patients, including more than 1,000 who are infected with HIV or have AIDS. One HIV-positive patient, Brian Desrosiers, 42, welcomes the option of seeing a nurse or pharmacist, rather than a doctor, for his frequent routine visits to the clinic. "There are some things that I can see the nurse fix," Desrosiers says, "and then the

doctor is freed up to see the people who need to see a doctor."

Dr. Carol Maughly, 69, says she expected when she helped set up Spectrum that the night shift it'd be difficult to collaborate with health-care providers who are more often regulated in working life—rather than with physicians. But the flattened hierarchy took little adjustment. "It's a real pleasure to see the health-care workers around us doing their jobs and the patients responding to them," Maughly says.

Primary-care reform is not just for big cities. Dr. Jim Rafferty, who runs a clinic with one other doctor in Caledonia, N.S., population 3,400, has just brought in a nurse-practitioner under the same federally funded program. The nurse-practitioner will be able to handle routine cases, Rafferty says, freeing the doctors to spend more time on more complex medical problems. It's a simple enough idea, but Rafferty hopes his model will help win back federal public confidence in the Canadian system. "One problem is that we have this massive health system to the south of us that has a lot of cash," he says. "We have to find solutions, not to compete with the U.S., but to be ourselves—to deliver primary care so it should be there."

Findings from most of the 141 pilot projects set up under the health transition fund will not be formally reported until next spring. But Rock was confident enough to now expanding primary-care reform in his ongoing mandate to provincial ministers at their recent meeting. With home care on the back burner and pharmaceutical all but forgotten, his officials are now focusing on primary-care reform as one of the few areas left where there still seems to be room for an active federal role. "We have to deconstruct beyond the theory, in real practice, how a significant group of health-care providers can work under a different system and find it superior," explains one senior Health Canada official. And perhaps deconstruct, at the same time, that Ottawa can be more than a banker to the provinces when it comes to the future of Canadian health care.

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With Paul Asterley in Vancouver

A Checkup for Health Care

By Brian Botheane

No issue has dominated Canadian politics and politics in the past decade like the state of the nation's health-care system. Or inspired such an array of competing, often contradictory, prescriptions for a solution. Even so provincial premiers gather next week to finalize a joint health-care proposal to the federal government, those who would care medicine continue to offer radically divergent diagnoses of the disease. Two current books on the problems with health care illustrate that dilemma. For David Gartner, a newly retired 25-year-old physician from Winnipeg and author of *Code Blue*, the entire system is morally ill, sucking up irresponsible cash infusions only to lurch from crisis to crisis. But health-care insider Michael Decer—a former Ontario deputy minister of health who is now chairman of the Canadian Institute

for Health Information—diagnoses such talk as ideologically driven alarmism. "The health-care system does need modernization and investment," allows Decer, author of *Four Strong Winds*. "But it's a pretty good system, as good as anything on the planet. Medicare is one of the things we have done well as a country."

Authors offer radically different cures for medicare's ailments

But the two writers are far apart in their analyses of the forces battering medicine. For more than a decade, high-tech, high-cost medicine has been colliding with the escalating health-care demands of an aging population. "The baby boomers discover arthritis," is Gartner's sardonic summary of the situation. The media, so governments struggled to balance their budgets in the 1990s, have been a shock to Canadian hospital clinicians, delisted services, lengthy waiting lists, overcrowded emergency rooms, doctors and nurses leav-

ing south—and a system still costing \$86 billion a year to run. The "first winds" that Decer sees pressuring the system—changing public expectations as to speed and quality of care, the financial crunch, developments in medical technology and the new emphasis on health promotion—amount to much the same diagnosis.

Gartner and Decer even share some views on what not to do. User fees, they agree, won't help. The relatively low charges suggested by their proponents will not raise enough money to make any real difference, Gartner says, considering that recent increases in government funding—cut back in the early 1990s but now at record levels—has had little impact on waiting lists. What's more, argues Decer, the only people with less an ability to discourage from medical visits are the poor. For middle-class Canadians, he says, "after you've paid \$29 for parking at the hospital, what \$5 more?"

That is the two authors' last point of agreement. Decer sees the current hard times as a result of outside forces, not a systemic failure. In his view, when Canadians emerge from the recession that is remodeling health-care systems around the world, much of what worries them will be gone. The generic revolution will dramatically improve people's health. A viable home-care system will replace the hospitals that cost-strapped provincial governments dash to close as medical advances—specially better drug treatments and less invasive surgical techniques—leech them. Decer quotes providing services around the clock will dramatically reduce the need for visits to emergency wards. Nurse historians, and above all, the health information available over the Internet, will cut down on trips to the doctor.



Gartner giving patients the power to make more of their own decisions

Decer, a public system is necessarily a government-run system. That means control by a cadre of bureaucrats, whose most important function has shifted from providing access to medical care to managing the demand for it. Decer promotes a positive approach to that task, focusing on providing information to patients so they can avoid unnecessary requests for tests or other procedures.

But Decer, a career bureaucrat, also gives a nod of approval to more aggressive management measures, such as identifying people at risk of heart disease, diabetes or other disorders and seeking to prevent those problems from developing. In *Four Strong Winds*, he does reject "negative demand management," a common health-care euphemism for slowing waiting lists as an alternative to making new expenditures. Self, queries may become permanent footers for minor procedures. Decer admits, to help cap health-care expenses. He carefully distinguishes between boomers' age-related needs and their wants—in terms of speed and quality—which he sees as byproducts of the consumer revolution that has transformed the rest of the economy. "You can't pay for everything the system can generate," he concludes, "but you can pay for what the system needs."

To Gartner, the solution is not in more government involvement but in empowering the patients themselves to make critical health-care decisions. In a government-run system where no one has to worry about his or her own direct payment, the demand for care is infinite, insists Gartner in *Code Blue*, recipient of the right-wing Donor Foundation's \$25,000 prize for the year's best book on Canadian public policy. To the author, that unfettered demand means there will never be enough public money available to pay for it all. So professional managers, usurping decisions that should belong to patients and doctors, will control health-care availability—and by crude means. If the system doesn't

curb costs for minor medical expenses. Gradually, a portion, tailored to individual circumstances, would be dedicated to catastrophic illness insurance that would cover annual bills in excess of \$2,000. Patients could spend the rest of the money on the doctors, tests, drugs and therapies of their choice. They would be liable from their own pocket for any difference between the MSA amount and the price at which insurance locked in.

That's one incentive to be frugal with the money in the account. Another is that patients could roll any money they hadn't spent by year's end into the next year's MSA—and continuing it to escape with the increased health-care costs of old age. With the freedom to shop around, Gartner argues, Canadians would foster price-lowering competition and make desired services and waiting lists things of the past.

Gartner acknowledges the difficulties associated with MSAs, not least being the upheaval and expense of changing over to such a system. But he believes the results would be worth the effort. Decer counters that MSAs would be largely expensive to administer, having no choice in one of its current advantages—the lower administrative costs of a single-payer system.

Given all the evidence of Canadian profound attachment to medicare as a right of citizenship, in particular to its universal availability without charge, the fate of health care seems more likely to accord with Decer's vision than Gartner's. But as he begins a residency in psychiatry at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital, the young doctor diagnoses "I think change in the health-care system will be like fixing the federal deficit," he says, referring to decades of continuous overspending before Ottawa finally got serious about balancing its books in the 1990s. "We can't deal with the present crisis in medicare, so there will be dramatic change—the question is not if but when." ■

SASKATCHEWAN



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Bitter journey

Another 90 migrants were deported home to China by airplane after their refugee claims were rejected. They were among the 589 Chinese who arrived off the coast of British Columbia in decrepit ships last summer. The first 90 people were deported in May; authorities say up to 100 others are almost ready to be shipped back. Many migrants face fines or imprisonment.

Land claims

According to documents filed in the Ontario Superior Court by the provincial government, at least four senior officials of the Ontario Realty Corp., along with major developers, conspired to sell provincial land at cut-throat prices. The documents are part of the government's lawsuit against the developers and the officials, who are no longer employed at the ORC.

Upholding a treaty

The Supreme Court of British Columbia threw out a challenge by the provincial Liberal party to the controversial Nisga'a treaty. The Liberals had claimed the deal was unconstitutional because it gave the Nisga'a powers of self-government.

In search of a settlement

An Canada will hold special mediation talks with its pilots on Aug. 7 in an attempt to resolve their ongoing labour dispute. The pilots' contract expired on April 1, and June 26, they voted 95 per cent in favour of a strike. Both sides have said flights will not be disrupted as long as talks are ongoing.

Prostitution law overturned

Alberta Children's Services Minister Don Evans said the province would consider how to revise legislation to help young prostitutes get off the street after a judge ruled it unconstitutional last week. Provincial Court Judge Karen Jordan overturned the law that allowed police to search premises for underage prostitutes without a warrant and permitted authorities to hold the girls in locked safe houses for up to three days. Evans said the province's new view was that the protection of children outweighed individual rights.



Reliving a 1,000-year-old moment

Re-enacting the arrival of the first Europeans in North America 1,000 years ago, the *Islandsigra*, a 22.5-m replica of a Viking ship, arrived at the northern tip of Newfoundland. The ship, which set sail from Iceland six weeks ago, was accompanied by a flotilla of other Viking boats as it entered a groovy cove at L'Anse aux Meadows, the only verified Viking site in the New World.

Clark and the Nova Scotia challenge

Federal Conservative party leader Joe Clark finally made it official: he will seek a House of Commons seat—in Nova Scotia's Kings' Landing riding. Sitting MP Scott Brison agreed to step down in order to enable his leader to contest a riding that has long been considered safe for the Tories. Clark had originally challenged Sirdwell Day, the recently chosen leader of the Canadian Alliance party, to go head-to-head with him on their home turf of Alberta, in the riding of Calgary Centre. But Day, disappointed former

treasurer, declined that challenge, opting instead to run in the B.C. riding of Okanagan-Capahulu, where sitting Alliance MP Jan Hart stepped down. The full session of Parliament is scheduled to open on Sept. 18. Last week, Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, who must call the byelections, was reportedly considering Sept. 11 as a possible date. Chrétien has indicated that his Liberals will not contest either riding. But in Nova Scotia, where the NDP currently holds one of the province's 11 federal seats, New Democrats say they will mount a strong challenge to Clark, including calling in federal leader Alexa McDonough to campaign against him.

Ontario's Tories fail the water test

An investigation ordered by the Ontario government after an E. coli outbreak killed six people in the town of Walkerton in May has found problems in more than half of the water-treatment plants examined across the province, including those in such major centres as Hamilton and Sudbury. Environmental commissioner Gord Miller, a friend of Premier Mike Harris, accused the government of failing to control pollution from factory farms and said the Tories have "appeared to deliberately mislead the public" about water safety.

World

Takeoff to Disaster

By Barry Carr in Paris

Like all of those who witnessed the final, desperate moments of the doomed aircraft, Willy Courbin will never quite believe what he saw last Tuesday afternoon. The 29-year-old electrician, a native of Martinique, was driving his truck along a road near Charles de Gaulle airport, north of Paris, when he heard a muzzling noise. "I looked to my left," he recalled, "and, to my astonishment, there was an airplane coming right at me, very close, almost on the top of the field. It was a Concorde. The wing was on fire. It flew right over my truck. I saw the engines on the left side in flames and then, as the plane banked, it suddenly fell onto its wing and crashed right into the hotel Hôpital-Marie. I saw a woman run out of the hotel, her hair and arms on fire. There was panic everywhere. My truck was covered in burning debris. I did not know where to go, what to do. And then I could not see anything, only a huge cloud of black smoke."

The next morning, Courbin was back at the scene, standing on a wooded hillside, telling his story. On the field below

lay blackened devastation, all that was left of the 40-year-old *Hôpital-Marie* and Air France Flight 4590. Amongst the wreckage were dozens of red-and-white striped plastic traffic cones, each marking the mangled, carbonized remains of the victims—100 passengers, mostly German tourists, and nine crew members, all French, as well as five people in the hotel *Le Petit*, a Maurel and a local French woman, all staff members, and another victim who remained unidentified at week's end. All died in a tragedy that may well mark a turning point in aviation history: the first crash of a Concorde, the distinctive needle-nosed, delta-winged, four-engine jet airplane that flies at twice the speed of sound. In 24 years of commercial service, the world's only supersonic airlines, a symbol of British and French technological prowess, has never fallen from the skies, let alone killed anyone.

But last week, one did, plunging to earth on Tuesday, July 25, on the outskirts of Gonesse, a dormitory town of 25,000 people, 14 km north of Paris. The plane's final flight lasted

less than two minutes after taking off from Charles de Gaulle, the French capital's main airport, and the eighth busiest in the world. Even before the Air France Concorde's wheels had left the ground, it was clear that the flight was in serious peril. "I know it was in trouble," said Sid Hart, a pilot for Federal Express out of Denver, who watched the takeoff from a nearby hotel. "One of the two engines on the left side obviously had a catastrophic failure. It was making noises 200 to 300 feet behind the airplane. It probably ripped out the engine near to it, so the airplane was then trying to climb on only two engines. The pilot kept trying to get the nose up to gain altitude, which eventually caused a stall."

Hart was not alone in witnessing the unfolding tragedy. Dozens of horrified spectators observed Flight 4590's death throes, including a Spanish woman who videotaped the scene

and a pair of Hungarian youths who captured still photographs of it. Air France chairman Jean-Cyril Spinasse, whose offices are located at Charles de Gaulle, watched the Concorde's ill-fated takeoff from his windows. And just 36 seconds into the flight, as the plane tore down the runway, worried officials monitoring the control tower noticed the pilot, 54-year-old Christian Marty, that the back of his aircraft was ablaze. Preliminary data from the two black box flight recorders, recovered intact from the wreckage, indicate that the cockpit crew was aware they had a problem. In reply to the warning from the tower, either Marty or his co-pilot, Jean-Marie, radioed back the short, terse message: "Failure in engine No. 2."

By then, however, it was too late to abort the takeoff, with the Concorde accelerating to 400 km/h and well past the point pilots call "no return." Eliahu Serot, the deputy

Reported by the Associated Press and other news agencies.

Flight 4590 on fire (left); much worse at the scene: mangled spectators observed the plane's death throes

A New York-bound Concorde bursts into flame and crashes near Paris





Investigating the scene of the wreckage (left) & British Airways Concorde leaving London (below), grieving for the victims after a special service in Paris (opposite); questions about last-minute repairs and a blown-out tire

World

public prosecutor who is leading a French judicial investigation into the crash, and it appeared "that the captain was no longer able to brake given that the thrust was too great." According to Senor, who has listened to the tapes of the cockpit conversation recovered from the black boxes, Marty decided to attempt an emergency landing at nearby Le Bourget airport. To reach Le Bourget, a minuscule flying time southwest of Charles de Gaulle, he had to maneuver the stricken plane in a loop. "It was during this looping maneuver," said Senor, "that the aircraft crashed on the hood in Gonesse."

Both at the crash site and in bits, investigators were looking closely at evidence that one or two tires blew out in the doomed Concorde reared down the runway, raising the possibility that debris from the blowout may have set off the blaze. In an case, both Senor's investigation and a parallel inquiry launched by the French ministry of transport Accident Investigation Bureau will focus on the Concorde's No. 2 engine, not least because last-minute repairs to the very same engine had helped to delay the takeoff of flight 4590 by 66 minutes. Air France officials admitted after the crash that the airline's engineers knew there was a problem with the No. 2 engine—located next to the fuselage on the port, or left side of the plane—when the aircraft returned to Paris on Monday from a flight to New York City. The pilot reported a defect in the engine that reverses the thrust that helps to brake a landing plane. But no repairs were initially carried out, apparently because no spare parts were immediately available and, according to the airline, thrust reversers are not considered essential to the aircraft's safety, either during takeoff, when they are not employed, or during landings.

Marty, however, refused to give off until the part had been



replaced. "The part was immediately taken from a reserve Concorde, and the repair was carried out in 30 minutes by a three-member team of technicians, supervised by an engineer," said Air France spokesman François Brousse. The additional delay, he added, was caused by the late arrival of baggage for some of the German tourists booked onboard the Concorde. With the repairs made and the baggage in place, flight 4590 was finally given permission to depart. Less than a minute later, as the Concorde passed the point of no return on the runway, the interior port-side engine—No. 2—was belching flames and clouds of black smoke. So too, according to the black box recordings, was the No. 1 exterior port-side engine. Less than two minutes later, the plane hurtled into the hotel outside Gonesse, exploding, as Marc put it, "in a huge fireball, like a mini atomic bomb."

The passengers came to their deaths included, in addition to the nine French crew, 96 Germans, two Danes, one Austrian and an American. Many of the Germans, among them three children, were affluent holidaymakers, bound for New York where they were scheduled to board the luxury ocean liner MS Deutschland for a history 15-day cruise through the Caribbean and the Panama Canal to Manila, in Ecuador. A few planned to stay onboard the Deutschland until the vessel's scheduled docking in Sydney, Australia, in time for the coming Olympic Games. The tour had been arranged by the apartment German travel agency, Peter Deilmann Reisebüro, a specialist in combining cruises with Concorde flights. In the wake of last week's disaster, however, the company's president, Peter Deilmann, vowed never to book passengers aboard a Concorde again. Appearing on Germany's ZDF television, Deilmann, voice

cracking with emotion, said he was "deeply shocked."

Similar sentiments were voiced by many others in Germany. Flags flew at half-mast throughout the country. German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder led his cabinet to his home town of Hanover for a solemn memorial service attended by some 350 ministers. "Germany is shaken and Germany is speechless," said Schröder. Nowhere was this as much gloom as in the north German city of Mönchengladbach, home to 13 of the dead. "There should have been 31 people from here on that plane," said Christian Ström, the local travel agent who booked the passages. "But so the live reactions, there was not enough space. Still, this has been a hole in our town. Most of the dead were customers I have known for years who often holiday together."

The transport ministry investigation has ruled out sabotage. And French civil aviation investigators doubt there is much possibility of human error from the cockpit crew. Pilot Marty was highly regarded, an accomplished flyer and avid sportsman who, 18 years ago, became the first person to Windsor slide across the Atlantic Ocean. "He was very sharp mentally and physically," said fellow Air France pilot Eric Dreny. "He was passionate about mountain biking and, during suppers, he would take his bike with him and disappear up some mountain." Co-pilot Marceau, meanwhile, had flown Concorde for a decade. Eight years ago, he was at the controls when the Concorde broke the sound-the-world flying record for supersonic jets.

In the meantime, all five Air France's remaining Con-

One witness said the accident was 'like a mini atomic bomb'



corde will remain grounded. British Airways is the only other airline flying the supersonic jet, capable of winging across the Atlantic in 3½ hours at a cruising speed of 2,160 km/h. In the wake of the Air France crash, BA initially also grounded the seven Concorde's in its fleet. But last Wednesday, 24 hours after the disaster at Gonesse, BA's twice-daily flight between New York and London went once again in operation. As usual, the customers onboard were well-treated, with pocket-sized enough to pay the \$15,000 ticket price. Director Mel Brooks and his actress wife, Anne Bancroft, were on the first Concorde flight into London after the Paris crash. "We had no worries," smiled Brooks on arrival. "It was British Airways as we know it would be as safe as houses."

Others are not so sure. Alice Brookling is certain the will never fly the Concorde. It may be some time, in fact, before the bodies are laid of airplane. The 21-year-old British woman was a guest in a second-floor room at the

Maison when the Concorde slammed into it. "I was talking to my sister in London when we heard this enormous bang," she recalled last week in Paris. "My room shook violently. I ran to the door, but the landing was covered in a solid wall of yellow flames. I ran back into the room and towards the window, which, luckily I had opened. I saw the horrific response, standing in the parking lot a floor below. 'What should I do?' I shouted. He said 'Jump!' so I did. I jumped and ran as far away from the hotel as I could get." The young woman, originally thought to have been killed, was rescued by a banded hand at a local hospital and released. "It was a truly miraculous escape," she said. "I know I should be here but I am still alive." She has called and four other people, who were in the same place at the same time as Brookling last Sunday afternoon, were not as lucky. ■

Hôteliers when the Concorde slammed into it. "I was talking to my sister in London when we heard this enormous bang," she recalled last week in Paris. "My room shook violently. I ran to the door, but the landing was covered in a solid wall of yellow flames. I ran back into the room and towards the window, which, luckily I had opened. I saw the horrific response, standing in the parking lot a floor below. 'What should I do?' I shouted. He said 'Jump!' so I did. I jumped and ran as far away from the hotel as I could get."

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Continued on page 11



The nimble and the bulky

Small regional jets and giant airliners appear to be the way of the future for the international aviation industry

By Robert Sheppard

A sad irony of the horrendous crash of the Concorde last week, it is reckoned to earth outside Paris just as the world's aviation industry was celebrating its most successful sales operation in history. In commercial airliner traffic across the Channel in Farnborough, England, \$60 billion worth of new planes were placed on order, reflecting a buoyant international airline industry that is expected to double its passenger fleet over the next 20 years. But those with long memories, the juxtaposition of these two events was doubly tragic: it was at a similar air show near Paris in 1973 that the Soviet-built supersonic—dubbed the Concorde—crashed, killing 15 people. The Soviet quietly scrubbed their experiment. The Anglo-French consortium that built the Concorde went on with theirs and are not likely to be derailed by last week's mishap, judging by statements crisscrossing from proprietors British Airways and Air France.

But as Farnborough shows, even if such elegant aeromasters as the Concorde are here to stay, they are not the way of the future. Coinciding a trend that began in the early 1990s, the race for the commercial skyways is being won by both the nimble and the bulky. The nimble are the small regional jets—from 20-seaters to, now, 90-seaters—such as these

built by Montreal-based Bombardier Inc., the bigger of the small-jet makers. These planes are "the hub horses," notes University of British Columbia aviation expert Tim Ouen. Their efficiency and extended range have inviolated the airline industry, allowing start-ups to zip at the heads of the larger airlines and carry an increasing number of passengers to centers that in the past were considered out of the way.

The bulky are the giant airliners that are slowly growing in size and also showing signs of moving into aeromarine cruise ships—complete with, in some cases, day cabs, libraries and elaborate sleeping facilities. Farnborough saw not only the small nose-to-nose battle between giant Boeing Co. of Seattle (\$32 billion in new orders) and Europe's Airbus Industrie (\$35 billion), it also saw a remarkable divergence of opinion between the two on the jumbo jet of the future.

Airbus used the show to unveil plans for its giant new A-380—a 555-passenger plane that can be expanded to 650 seats in a pinch. The European group says it expects to produce as many as 1,500 of these brats over the next 20 years, primarily to ease congestion at the world's largest airports. Boeing's analysis is entirely different: the world will only be able to handle about 500 or so super-jumbos by 2020, a need it can help fill by expanding its 416-seat 747. Ouen tends to side with Boeing on that one: airport congestion can be eased by regional jets getting slightly larger—"everyone keeps up a notch." In any event, he adds, Airbus is going to have to come up with money more than the 22 orders for the A-380 it took at Farnborough to justify the estimated \$18 billion or so in development costs alone for such a new plane.

The shape of air travel in the future depends on many factors. Will no-frills fares take off with a whole new class of



Airbus' planned A-380 (above and right), Bombardier's CRJ 900 passenger jet (left): large airplanes are showing signs of turning into aeromarine cruise ships complete with, in some cases, day cabs, libraries and sleeping facilities

the travelling public? Will air traffic continue to grow at the current rate of five to six per cent a year? And how will governments respond to airline mergers? Ouen appears to be waiting on the growing (or shrinking) pains surrounding the recent Air Canada takeover of Canadian Airlines. In Europe, says Ouen, airlines in base have been much more competition-minded and have taken leading slots away from huge carriers that have made commercial deals with their competitors, handing them slots to smaller regional operators.

And then there is the question of fuel. "It's inevitable that we're heading towards another fuel crisis," observes University of Toronto aerospace engineer Jason DeLaurier. "If oil stays high, future air travel is going to be a lot different." Today's planes fly faster than they ought to and burn more fuel, DeLaurier notes, because they have demanding take-off and passenger schedules to maintain. In the OPEC-triggered oil crisis of the 1970s, commercial jets slowed down to save fuel, while aeromarine researchers voyaged with the idea of alternative fuels like hydrogen. The future, says DeLaurier, points to "bigger slower planes with the compensation being to make them more comfortable for the passenger."

Rogue slower planes? Perhaps. But the lesson of Farnborough, at least, seems to be slightly larger, slightly faster ones, with rather big almost every conceivable market. Bombardier's chief rival, Embraer of Brazil, used the show to unveil a fast, long-range executive jet, with a specially engineered engine to nibble both the best dimensions of the American southwest and the high altitudes of Mexico and South America. The new executive jet takes direct aim at Bombardier's successful Learjet subsidiary—and maybe even the celebrity market, which may thank twice now about flying in Europe on a Concorde.

Executive and regional jets took about 20 per cent of the

new sales orders at Farnborough. An American market research company predicts 4,000 regional jets will be added to the world fleet within the decade. And the phenomenal growth in short-haul carriers is also leading to increased competition on the manufacturing front. "Embraer is right in Bombardier's tail," observes aviation consultant Eric McCoskie of Montreal-based AvPlan Inc. "This is nose-to-nose competition in every market." Bombardier and Canada recently won a prominent World Trade Organization ruling against Embraer and Brazil for unfair subsidies—which should force Embraer to play by the same rules, but Embraer is not the only contender. The surprise at Farnborough was little-known Alliance Aircraft Corp. of



New Hampshire, which unveiled a letter of intent for 250 regional jets worth \$5.8 billion. Alliance is still shopping for a site for its new manufacturing facility. But the fact that a newcomer can just lunge in with a door-opening deal of this size shows how high-flying the aerospace market is.

The long of the regional jet, Bombardier is, for the foreseeable future, Canada's winning entry in the great airplane competition. Since Jan. 1, Bombardier has taken firm orders for 273 42- to 70-seat aircraft, worth approximately \$5.4 billion. That's including 34 new sales, at \$41.2 million a piece, for its first-to-market new 90-seater—97 jet that is to add 1,400 new jobs at company plants in Montreal and Belfast. But the ultimate barrier to Bombardier's ambitions may be that such as stretched its versatile Challenge jet is probably no mainstay sales. Because of complicated pilot contracts in the United States, the new 90-seater will be shut out of many of the large American markets where it is too big to be considered a regional carrier. Yet it is not quite big enough to replace the 120-seat workhorses of Boeing and Airbus that ply the main business routes. Too big for some markets, too small for others, this extended Challenge is the story of Bombardier until a niche expanded that has turned itself into the thrall-free civil airplane manufacturer in the world—born still a long behind the big boys and the jumbo buses in the sky. ■

Cautious steps towards peace

At Camp David, Israelis and Palestinians agree to compromises but stumble over the issue of Jerusalem

Yasser Arafat flew home to a hero's welcome from thousands of Palestinians in the dusty streets of Gaza. Cheered by children chanting, "We are following Arafat on the way to Jerusalem," the 70-year-old leader of the Palestinian Authority returned with smiling eyes to show for 15 days of Middle East peace negotiations at Camp David in Maryland. But many Palestinians feared that to Salafin, the Sunnis, chiefdom who drove the *Quadrilateral* from the Holy Land in 1187, and



Arafat is firm stand on the question of sovereignty

all-out national liberation war. And at the Camp David summit itself, which Arafat had persuaded U.S. President Bill Clinton, hungry for a foreign policy victory, to convene, the two sides "closed some gaps" according to Arafat's secretary, Yusef Alpher. "The process is not over. They're going to have to go back to talking."

Alpher, a former special adviser to Arafat, says there was agreement on the *thirty-day* issue of Jerusalem, which both sides claim as their capital. "What we witnessed was the dawning of a new dawn," he says. "Arafat wanted a public debate, far beyond anything we have known before, on what there is about Jerusalem that is important to us." Often concerned, The new fact, commented the *London* *Tel-Aviv* daily *Haaretz*, "that the core issues of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict were discussed in a running-point from which there is no return. The era of allegorizing is over."

Seen in this light, Camp David indeed witnessed some movement. Israel

barred the once-unthinkable idea of shared rule in East Jerusalem—occupied along with other territory by Israel in the 1967 war. It acknowledged Palestinian claims on the Jordan Valley, killed for three decades as Israel's chief agent of attack from Jordan or Iraq in the east. It offered to take back a token number of refugees under the guise of family reunions—after largely ignoring the issue for the last 30 years. On the other side, the Palestinians, for the first time, appeared ready to compromise on their previous demands that the pre-1967 border remain inviolate—even to the point of allowing land to annex settlements on the occupied West Bank, bringing a majority of the 200,000 Jews living there under direct Israeli sovereignty. "There

are no taboos anymore," Arafat's chief spokesman of the *Kuwait* and a senior member of Arafat's *Israel* party, said. Arafat's former the Camp David talks collapsed.

The taboos may be gone, but dangers remain. If negotiations are to continue, Arafat must fend off Palestinian pressure to declare an independent state on Sept. 13. Arafat must rebuild his national coalition government after losing the support of right-wing parties angered by his willingness to compromise.

The things he was ready to give up are too big and too crucial for the future of the state of Israel," said Liora Livnat, a member of the opposition Likud party. But the *Kuwait* goes into another recess in early August, giving Arafat a three-month political reprieve. And there is always the prospect of success at the negotiating table as Israeli and Palestinian reflect on Camp David—and whether to push ahead.

John Nixson with *Haaretz* in Jerusalem

A new government in Fiji

Two days after the military in Fiji ousted rebel leader George Speight, an ethnic Fijian interim government was formed under Prime Minister Laisenia Qarase. Speight sparked a crisis in May when his followers stormed the parliament in the name of ethnic Fijian rights, and took 27 lawmakers hostage for two months. The coup deposed Fiji's first ethnic Indian prime minister, Mahendra Chaudhry, who was among the hostages.

Tensions in Haiti

A grenade exploded outside the Canadian ambassador's residence in Haiti as tensions mounted between the Caribbean country's government and the United Nations over voting in the May, June and July 2000 elections were supposed to restore constitutional government, but foreign governments criticized the voting formula that gave former president Jean-Bertrand Aristide's party a Senate majority. Canada has threatened to reduce its aid.

Tracking the West Nile virus

Canadian scientists are trying to determine if the potentially lethal West Nile virus has made it to Canada. The virus was first detected in North America last year when it killed seven people in New York City. Canadian researchers, who are carrying out tests on 300 dead birds, fear that migratory species such as crows and hawks may export the mosquito-borne virus north. Named for the region in Uganda where it first appeared in 1937, the virus causes only mild symptoms in most people, but can cause a swelling of the brain that may result in death. Last week, it was found for the second time in two weeks in Massachusetts in a dead crow.

Elections in Yugoslavia

Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic called presidential, parliamentary and local elections for Sept. 24 after months of changing the constitution and electoral laws in favor of his government. Serbian opposition leader Vuk Draskovic declared that his Serbian Renewal Movement party will not participate in the elections, but other opposition parties have said they will field candidates.

Bush's blast from the Republican past

After weeks of speculation, Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush named Dick Cheney, currently CEO of the Dallas-based energy service giant Halliburton Co., and one of his father's most trusted allies, to be his running mate. Cheney, a former congressman and defense secretary under President George Bush,

was initially opposed by the Texas governor to help provide non-partisan candidates, but eventually emerged as the leading candidate himself—beating out less conservative finalists.

The Republican's first stop was Cheney's home town of Casper, Wyo., where he began his climb to Congress, the federal cabinet and the top of the corporate world. The underdog brought no new policy initiatives but gave Cheney, who has not run for office since 1988, an opportunity to win his campaign fees. But the enthusiasm of 1,200 supporters, at a spirited rally held at Cheney's alma mater, Nebraska Central High School, couldn't quell Democratic attacks on Cheney's conservative record in Congress, including opposition to the Hush 2000 program of early-education funding and strictness against South Africa's apartheid regime. Global critics also

pointed out that the usual orientation of Cheney's 31-year-old lesbian daughter, Mary, appears to be at odds with the politics of his new boss, who is said to have told supporters he will not appear homophobic in the White House (Bush denies having made such statements).



Cheney with his new boss: a true-blue conservative

But having Cheney, a respected political veteran who knows how Washington works, on the Republican ticket will be popular with party stalwarts who think Bush and his vice-presidential candidate are in Philadelphia for the Republican convention that starts on July 31. Current Vice President Al Gore, the Democratic candidate, is still considering his options for a running mate as his party's Aug. 14 to 17 convention nears.

Recognizing North Korea

Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd

Astorley announced that Canada was establishing formal relations with North Korea, and hopes to have an ambassador accredited to the capital, Pyongyang, before the end of the year. The historic announcement, which comes 50 years after Canada deployed more than 26,000 troops in

part of the United Nations "police action" to help stop the Chinese-led North from over-running the South, means that Ottawa, for the first time, recognizes the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a separate state. Canada is the third Group of Eight nation, after Russia and Italy, to normalize relations with Pyongyang since the breakdown meeting in June between North Korean leader Kim Jong Il and South Korean President Kim Dae Jung.

Growing High-Tech Tomatoes

B.C. Hot House is reaping big profits with new methods and marketing

By Jennifer Hunter

Andy Smith is untroubled about his job at British Columbia's No. 1 tomato salesman. Not only does he drive a fiery-red sport utility vehicle, but he drinks tomato juice on the radio at lunch and he's been photographed wearing a bright string of tomatoes on the vine as a substitute for a silk tie. When Smith is invited to a friend's house for dinner, he exchanges the usual flowers or bottle of wine. He arrives, instead, with a box of scarlet peppers, seedless cucumbers, delicate baby tomatoes and plump tomatoes, all grown by B.C. Hot House Foods Inc., a former farmer's co-operative that transformed itself into a marketing powerhouse five years ago. "We always loved tomatoes," says Smith, who became president of the Surrey-based B.C. Hot House in 1998. "Now I love them even more."

So do veggie ranchers across North America, particularly Californians, who consume about 50 per acre of what B.C. Hot House produces. The hydroponically grown vegetables are even shipped to Japan and Hong Kong, where B.C. Hot House competes for a slice of Asian markets with growers from Ontario, Arizona, New Jersey and Colorado, as well as the Netherlands and Israel. Last year, the company's revenue from sales of tomatoes, lettuce,

cucumbers and peppers was \$172 million and Smith estimates that this year's sales will top \$270 million. Compare that to 1993—the popularity of greenhouse produce first began to surge in the early 1990s—when the farmer-owned enterprise sold \$27 million worth of vegetables. In fact, growth each year since 1995 has been double-digit. "We believe we are the most successful version of these products in North America," says the 53-year-old Smith. "Not only are we moving into our competitors' markets, we are selling tomatoes to people who didn't eat tomatoes before."

Selling tomatoes in California seems a bit like taking coal to Newcastle, since California is considered a major exporter of the pulpy fruit. (In 1999, Canadians exported \$180 million worth of tomatoes to the United States, mainly to Florida and California.) But Smith says that Hot House's tomatoes are special: they are grown in high-tech greenhouses, without the use of soil and almost no pesticides. They arrive in the grocery stores bright red, juicy and fragrant, unlike the hard and tasteless tomatoes that many consumers are familiar with and often avoid. "There are purplish plants," says Mark Karschewski, general manager of the B.C. Hot House Growers' Association, a sister organization that provides horticultural information and support for the farmers. "Some people call our greenhouses the Club Med for plants because you can control the environment and therefore produce the best fruit."

But not everyone is enamored of the rows and rows of gleaming glass greenhouses that are spreading in the Lower Mainland area, particularly around the town of Delta. Some residents have



Smith among glass houses: many consumers prefer Hot House's non-regional produce

complained that the greenhouses are an eyesore, and others believe the thousands of migratory birds that visit the region will be adversely affected about 500 acres are covered by the greenhouse, inhibiting the birds' opportunity to feed and find shelter. Conventional farmers are also worried about the loss of some of the most productive fields in the country.

The greenhouse growers have countered, however, that with another 20,000 acres in the area available to the birds, the environmental impact is minimal. In fact, the company has shown itself to be almost as adept at public relations as it

is at growing vegetables. One of the main reasons for the 27-year-old group's success is its decision in 1995 to switch from a farmers' co-operative to an incorporated company. At the same time, the group—now made up of 55 farming operations—decided to "brand" the vegetables with identifiable logos, as if they were any other kind of consumer product, such as juice, computers and televisions. All of its fruit carry edible stickers, made of paper and vegetable-based inks, that show a B and a C in the shape of a tomato and a pepper. They are also aggressive advertisers, using every television, radio, newspaper and billboard ad to keep their products top of mind.

Smith led a recent tour of an enormous 25-acre greenhouse. The tomatoes grow from woody 10-in.-high stakes secured in beds of sawdust and are fed by huge pipes bringing in both water and nutrients. Everything is controlled by computers, even the opening and closing of skylight windows. "Here, you can control all the inputs into the plants," explains Smith. "You can maximize the quality of the product, its appearance, size, flavor and sweetness." The Delta's temperate climate is ideally suited to greenhouses, Smith adds, giving the B.C. industry a distinct advantage.

The tomatoes are picked by hand when they are ripe. Field tomatoes, by contrast, are gathered while still very hard and green, and then exposed to a process that speeds up ripening, so that the fruit are ruminating by the time they finally reach stores. "Field tomatoes are usually picked by machines and they need to be as hard as golf balls to survive the process," says Kevin Duman, head of marketing and sales at B.C. Hot House. "We can charge a premium price for our tomatoes because the consumer believes they taste and look like tomatoes should."

But because the tomatoes and other B.C. Hot House vegetables require mist and light to grow, cultivating them during the dark, rainy winter months is not just possible. One B.C. Hot House farmer got around the problem by setting up a greenhouse in California. Smith says he is trying to encourage other B.C. farmers to do the same so that greenhouse-grown produce can be available from November to March. "I'd like to see more of our growers move down there so we could have a supply all year round," he explains. "The goal is to plant tomatoes across Canada and the United States and, with plump tomatoes cultivated in greenhouses owned by B.C. growers."

Not so strong

The shares of *Artemus.com Inc.*, the gigantic online book and music reader-synthesizer with overnight Internet fanbase, dumped badly following reports of disappointing earnings. Even though revenues were up sharply from the same period last year, the company posted a second-quarter loss of more than \$170 million. Analysts said they are concerned that sales of eys and cookware, two of the company's new ventures, have been weak. The firm's president of one year, Joseph Galka, also said he is resigning for family reasons.

Funds still under scrutiny

A week after the settlement in the RT Capital stock manipulation case, securities regulators across the country are mounting a co-ordinated ouster of the mutual fund industry. Officials have written to fund managers across the country requesting detailed records of trading activity on six days between December, 1999, and June of this year. They have also recommended that a new fund be established to protect investors if a mutual fund fails.

Saying no to reactors

Turkey has decided not to proceed with a plan to purchase nuclear reactors, a significant blow to *Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd.*, the Crown corporation that backs Canadian push to export nuclear power plant technology. The commission has already spent millions bidding on the contract. Turkey said it could not afford the \$4-billion investment because of its economic austerity program.

Scotia sells branches

The Bank of Nova Scotia, the country's fourth largest, has sold 45 of its branches in Quebec to the Laurentian Bank of Canada. Scotiabank has decided to concentrate in Quebec province in Montreal, Quebec City, Hull and Gatineau. Laurentian will improve its presence in the province and give it an opportunity to take advantage of anticipated changes in federal banking laws.

Napster keeps swapping, for now

In a blow to what Jon Mitchell called "the music-maker machinery behind the popular song," a federal appeal court in San Francisco set aside an injunction against reorganized music distributor Napster. The last-minute request allows the Internet tune-swapper, founded last year by Berkeley University student Shawn Fanning, to stay in business pending the outcome of a long-



Napster founder Fanning

suit for infringement of copyrights. Earlier in the week, a California judge issued an injunction ordering that the wildly popular site—which hosts 20 million users—be shut down. That move sent fans scrambling frantically

download as much of their favorite music as possible before Napster went unplugged.

The resulting industry legal action is directed only against Napster, the largest and best known of the budding sites. It has created a huge library of new and archived music by forging links between users, who once traded their computers in the MP3 format. Alternative sites, such as *deepdiscovery* were once as popular, but some experts predict the courts will find it difficult to restrict their proliferation, no matter how the Napster lawsuit is resolved.

Nortel on the prowl for new acquisitions

A day after unveiling a \$150-billion plan to acquire the world's largest maker of fibre-optic cable, Corning Inc. of Corning, N.Y., Nortel Networks bought With software developer Alamo Widelcomms of San Jose, Calif., for \$11.7 billion. Nortel has spent \$45 billion snapping up software firms in the past three years. And while the company reported higher than expected revenue last week, CEO John Bush noted that it may be facing shortages in the supply of fibre-optic cable, which is crucial for building high-speed Internet networks.

Financial Outlook

Statistics Canada's composite index of 10 leading economic indicators is often used to predict how the gross domestic product will grow later in the

year. In June, the index increased at a moderate monthly rate of 0.4 per cent. That is less than half the peak rate of 1.1 per cent achieved in both February and March. The drop from earlier in the year is due in part to a decline in the housing index; the industry was hurt by construction strikes in Quebec. In fact, only five of the index's indicators showed increases in June. The TSE 300 composite index posted the largest gain, with technology stocks driving a 3.8-per-cent jump. Solid income growth and buoyant consumer confidence also pushed furniture and appliance sales up by 0.4 per cent.



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Shooting with the new high-definition Sony camcorder: the end of 35-mm film?

Sony video versus 35-mm

What better place to showcase a technological breakthrough than on the set of a television show about the future? *Star Trek: First Contact*, a sci-fi series produced by Alliance Atlantis Communications Inc. in Toronto, is now in its fourth season, filming 22 one-hour episodes. Previously, the show was shot on 35-mm film, widely used on programs with special effects. But this year, the cast and crew became the first in the world to shoot a TV series with Sony's \$150,000 HDW-P900 high-definition camcorder, which offers virtually the same quality as 35-mm.

Sony is reluctant to say the camcorder will mean the end of 35-mm film, but it seems certain to give film a good run. According to Sony, the cost of shooting with the HDW-P900 is one-fifth that of 35-mm. Special effects are easier to accomplish, and colours can be fine-tuned on set rather than after the film is developed. Steve D'Onofrio, the post-production supervisor for *First Contact*, says he has been fielding calls from around the world because of the buzz the camcorder has created. Adding

to the excitement in film-maker George Lucas' decision to use the HDW-P900 to shoot the live-action sequences of *Star Wars: Episode II*. "If Lucas is doing it," says D'Onofrio, "you know that this is the way things are going."

Going wireless

There is a new option for those who require Internet access while on the road: Rogers AT&T Wireless at Toronto and Research in Motion Inc., of Waterloo, Ont., announced a new Web browser for users of RIM's wireless hand-held computer, the BlackBerry 957, which was introduced in April. The browser, developed by GeoAmerica Inc., allows access to 21 Canadian news and information Web sites, including broadcasters, banks and retailers. The cost of the BlackBerry 957 unit is \$549, with e-mail and browser access priced from \$25 to \$50 a month.

David Neale, vice-president of product development at Rogers AT&T Wireless, noted that, unlike the better-known Palm hand-held computer, the BlackBerry is the first product available in Canada to offer completely wireless Internet access. And while Palm does sell a model in the United States that

features a wireless Internet connection, the available sites are mostly American. Executives at both RIM and Rogers AT&T expect wireless Web access to grow sharply in popularity, much like the recent jump in cellphone use.

Zvezda arrives

Only five years and more than 40 space missions to go. That's what lies ahead for the coalition of 16 nations, which includes Canada, that is modifying and upgrading the \$53-billion International Space Station. Last week,



Russian-built Zvezda, a delicate station Russia's mission control, successfully moved the orbiting station with the Russian-built Zvezda control module, which was launched on July 12. Zvezda, which means "star" in Russian, will serve as home for three astronauts beginning in October. The module acts the station, adjusts orbit and distributes electricity. The delicate unit is as important as the colossal size of two-thirds of a metre per second. The station is now as long as an 11-story building in tall, and weighs almost 40 tonnes.

Cool Sites

Stains away

Without a doubt, there is a fine art to getting rid of stubborn stains. Help lies on the Web. The Stain Guide, located at www.stainremoval.com, shows how, often advice on getting rid of everything from socks to wood sap, as well as the old standards: blood and lipstick.

Danylo Haweskiha



Nailing down Norman Mailer

Independent film producer Michael Mailer, in Toronto shooting a movie, rushes across the city to meet his step-mother, Norris Church Mailer, at town on a book tour. Norris, 51, is the sixth wife of American writer Norman Mailer, and Michael, 38, is one of his five children (his mother Beverly was wife number 4). Michael drops numerous copies of Norris' novel, *Witchkill Summer*, on the table for her to sign. "It's a great book," says Michael, casting an adoring look at the five-foot, 10-inch beauty. "I can't wait to make it into a movie."

The novel is loosely based on Norris' youth in small-town Arkansas—with the Vietnam War raging in the background. By 25, Norris was a divorced single mother, teaching art and occasionally dating Bill Clinton, a promising politician from Little Rock. One evening, she got herself invited to a party that Norman Mailer, then 52, was attending. "I wanted to meet a real writer," says Norris. "I wasn't thinking about romance, he was so much older than me. I'm not sure, but he didn't seem quite so old when I met him."

Three months later, she and her son joined Mailer, a notorious drinker and womanizer, in New York City. They have been together for 25 years and Norris is credited with being the best and keeping the huge extended family together. No secret? "Just spend an hour with her and you'll know," says Michael, who recently came off an engagement to Nora Haples. "Of all the stepmothers, she is the only one I like."

People

Edited by Shanda Doust

Fast Jacques stays on track

Better to race with the devil you know than the one you don't. That's what Jacques Villeneuve decided last week in opting to stick with British American Racing for another three years. In so doing, the 1997 world champion turned down a reported two-year, \$60-million contract from the Benetton Renault group. "It was a difficult decision," says Villeneuve, who is engaged to singer-actress Daniella Marugga. "However, I am happy to stay with the team after two years of hard work."

BAR's four-year run on the Formula One circuit have been disappointing. But Villeneuve's two recent fourth-place finishes seem to be enough to encourage the 29-year-old French-Canadian, who re-signed for \$20 million a year, plus performance incentives. And after 2003? There is a narrow window after that Villeneuve could be convinced to get behind the wheel of a Ferrari—the car driven by his late father, Gilles.



Koons, Tyson and Wright: all had successful solo careers



group only 10 days before they occupied their room in an affair. The Irish Times, *Live in Belfast*. The trio, who have all had successful solo careers in Ireland, took decidedly different roads to fame. A man of the cloth for eight years, Wright left the priesthood in

An Irish-knit trio hits a high note

Judging from their nonstop laughter and banter, it seems The Irish Tenors have jumped on the list of original member John McDermott, who left the band in late January. The two new recruits of Kieran Tyrone, 40, Anthony Kearns, 28, and 42-year-old Fionn Wright, who joined the

1988 to focus on a singing career. Tyrone diverted his attention from a career in medicine to 1990 to pursue music. And in 1993, Kearns got his big break by winning Ireland's "Search for a Tenor" contest. "When I started singing, Fionn had the top selling album in Ireland," Tyrone says. "You can't go wrong by adding someone like Fionn to the group. Success breeds success." And in only a short time, these three Irish lads have had plenty of it.

WHY DO MEN DO IT?

A recent spate of brutal murders spurs debate over disturbing new theories about male violence

By Chris Wood

If there is a gene for murder, it is a side bet it will be found first in someone who carries XY chromosomes. That is, a man. There may be no such gene. Many experts insist violence is learned, not inherited. But as a spate of domestic tragedies and a powerful new study by Statistics Canada both establish beyond doubt, when murder happens in the home, it is men who do most of the killing. And women and children who do most of the dying.

That news may be more sad than startling. A good argument can be made that it was ever thus. Simon Fraser University criminologist Neil Boyd makes just that point in a new book, *The Bear Within: "Throughout history,"* he writes, "the perpetrators of the most vile and savage crimes have always been almost exclusively male." What is new lies in the manner of the numbers that Statistics Canada has collected, and in the way a few researchers are beginning to re-examine why it is that men—men specifically—kill.

Since if the news is good, in Canada, fewer women (and men) are dying at the hands of past or present partners than did a decade ago. That may testify to the effect of policies targeting family violence. Or not. Much of the decline can be accounted for by demographics: the proportion of Canadian males in the violence-prone years of 15 to 29 has dropped by almost half since 1975. Boyd's book accuses other social sciences of ignoring critical biological clues to murderous male impulses. If he is right, cultural experts who have encouraged governments and society at large to believe male violence is learned—and can, therefore, be awakened—may have been tragically wrong.

How tragic has been made horribly clear in recent weeks in Ontario. A string of ghastly slayings began in mid-June, when a Mississauga fire inspector, Balbir (Bobby) Singh, murdered his former fiancée, Harjap (Jag) Bhat, and killed himself by setting fire to the van they were in. Police identi-



Brenda, Kirby and Kenneth Dewar (above); Giffen Hadley (right); acts of extreme, familial violence aimed at women and children

fied the charred remains through dental records. Seven days later, on the other side of Toronto, Giffen Hadley ran terrified and naked from his home in Pickering, cradling his infant son. She just had time to hand the child to a neighbour before her estranged husband Ralph pulled her back inside and shot her, then himself.

The horror continued into July. Sometime late on the 5th, or early next morning, Vilim Lafi snubbed his wife, Bohumila, to death in their Kitchener home. He next took a rifle and shot his daughter and three sons. Then, he shot himself. Ten days later in Stratford, Lucette Villeneuve was killed with what police describe as a "sharp object" after a man ordered her two young daughters out of the house. Police have charged Joseph Williamson, whose common-law relationship with Villeneuve had ended a few days earlier, with her murder.

Those are only the most publicized cases from a single province over a period of a month. At the juncture of the cottage in Ontario, the same evil touched British Columbia's sunny Okanagan Valley. In the rural community of Winfield, on June 29, Kenneth Dewar killed his 11-year-old daughter, Kirby, and his wife, Brenda, before taking his own life. Family members discovered their bodies when they arrived to celebrate Kirby's birthday.

In the shadow of so much death, it is hard to concentrate on the hopeful signs beamed in the dry chaff of Statistics Canada's numbers. Still, the agency's report on family



violence in Canada held out at least some reason for optimism when it was released last week. "Special homicide," it found, "has declined gradually over the past two decades." The drop has been substantial: fewer than half as many women per capita died at the hands of male partners in 1998 as in 1975. Non-lethal male violence may also be diminishing. As part of its study, Statistics Canada surveyed 26,000

Canadians, a number large enough to produce findings considered accurate within 1.1 per cent. That includes highly significant the drop during the 1990s of close to one-third in the number of women who said their male partners had assaulted them in the last five years—from 12 per cent to eight per cent.

Some men found it important that Statistics Canada also reported an almost identical rate for assaults by women on male partners. Seven per cent of men and they had been assaulted by female partners in at least one in the last five years. "I told you so!" wrote self-styled men's rights advocate Kirby Lewwood, who insists men are victimized as often as women in any war between the sexes. In an e-mail to *Maclean's* and other media, Lewwood added: "Maybe now you will start to report the facts instead of feminist lies."

Women are plainly capable of violence. About once a month, somewhere in Canada, a woman kills her male partner. But there are differences in both the nature and scale of male and female acts of homicide. In the same hypothetical month, men will kill at least three women for every one



Boltonville Left: Vilim Lafi and son Daniel (right); carnage at home

Men often kill as a final act of escalating abuse, women tend to kill in response to male violence

of their own sex who die at a woman's hand. Men, moreover, tend to kill from different motives. After studying data on spousal homicides, University of British Columbia psychologist Don Dutton concluded: "In many cases, the female-perpetrated homicide was self-defence. The male-perpetrated homicide was anger-motivated. If I can't have you, nobody else will." In nearly half of male murders, Dutton adds, the violence was extreme, sometimes "brutal"; that was so only once in every 10 murders committed by a female. Most women who killed did only what was sufficient to put an end to their own terror.

And while other research often supports the notion that women kill out physically nearly as often as men, the results are very far different. "Women were three times more likely than men to be injured by spousal violence," Statistics Canada found, "more than twice as likely to report being beaten, five times as likely to report being choked." Women slash, kick or throw things. Men throw punches, go for the throat or grab a weapon. Little wonder more than a third of women in abusive relationships told the federal agency they feared for their lives, while fewer than one in 10 shared men felt so frightened.

In Ontario, women's advocates argue that any decline in the total number of male murders has been offset by increasing violence in the streets that do occur. Five years ago, says Violet Goss, head of the Women Abuse Council of Toronto, about 10 per cent of women who tried to shelter in that city were so badly injured they needed to be hospitalized. Now, the figure is closer to 40 per cent. Green Mince the Harris government cuts to social programs, including affordable housing, for forcing more women to stay longer with violent men. "We know from all the studies, abuse only gets worse over time," she says. "We are seeing that escalation."

Whatever the reason, there can be no disputing the gender gap in the extremity of violence. Male kill women far more often than the other way around not only in Canada, but in Britain, the United States and the rest of the world as well. "Throughout history," Boyd observes, "the quality and character of male violence has differed from female violence." The differences go beyond the fact that men often kill as a final act of escalating abuse, while women do so as a response to male violence. Men "beat down and kill their partners," as Boyd says, often resuming their abuse later. "Women do nothing. Men rape before killing, not women. Men kill strangers. Women rarely do."

But if killing, and in particular killing with extreme or violent violence, is overwhelmingly a guy thing, the question remains: Why? It is tempting to seek the answer in the testosterone compound which, more than any other, makes a guy a guy. Testosterone. Though present in both sexes, the hormone courses through male veins at 10 to 20 times the level it does in females. Twice in a boy's life, moreover, levels shoot up even higher. In the world, a testosterone spike runs embryonic gonads and other tissues into those of a boy. The second hit at puberty. For the next 10 years or so across the population as a whole, Boyd told *MenWeek*, "the violence curve tracks the testosterone curve quite closely." The more T in the veins, the more violence.

There are other reasons to think a killer may lack in the male essence. Steroids, testosterone's synthetic chemical counterparts, accomplished in fits of impulsive violence—so called "roid rage"—among body-builders and others who abuse them. According to *The New York Times*, a U.S. study of 700 male prisoners in 1995 showed that "those with the highest T levels were most likely to engage in unprovoked violence." But researchers have not been able to close the case on testosterone. While the hormone peaks in a man when he is about 30, those who kill show estranged wives or girlfriends—and too often, like Lutz, their entire families—tend to be in their late 30s and early 40s. Is a woman of his breed down to the ropes, Boyd asserts that no reliable data show men become more violent when testosterone levels are boosted, whether by competitive athletic sessions or medications. Not, despite the prison study, do testosterone

SPOUSAL VIOLENCE IN CANADA

The percentage of women and men, age 15 and over, who reported violence by a spouse (including common-law partner) in the past five years



Source: Statistics Canada

WHO DOES WHAT

Percentage of women and men who reported violence by a spouse in the past five years, by the most serious type of violence experienced

	Women	Men
Threatened, threw something	18	58
Pushing, shoving, grabbing	22	62
Kicked, hit, hit, hit with something	35	62
Sexually coerced, sexually abused, sexual harassment	44	25

Source: Statistics Canada



Police leading Latimer, a just after he was charged with first-degree murder, Vancouver (right) consequences



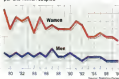
look combat reliably in comparisons between violent and nonviolent men.

With one critical exception. They are deprived of testosterone—through surgical or chemical castration—the number of sexual assaults they commit plummets, although not the number of non-sexual attacks or other crimes. That finding suggests testosterone may be more likely to prompt violent impulses along a sexual track, than to generate them. Then again, sex and jealousy are often factors in crime, even when the crime is not itself sexual. As Boyd says, "Most male violence is about women."

Justices across the country have recognized that fact over the past decade, establishing special procedures to deal with crimes of domestic violence. Aware that many women are reluctant to press charges against abusive partners—out of fear or unconscious attachment or a bit of both—most provinces have removed that choice from them, placing it instead in the hands of police or prosecutors. Ontario, for one, is doubling the number of special courts dedicated exclusively to charges arising from domestic violence, and is considering doing the same for emergency care centers for battered women. Brazil's Colombia has instituted a compensated registry of restraining orders—most against men who have threatened women—

THE TOLL OF DEATH

Spousal murder rate, 1979 to 1998, per one million couples



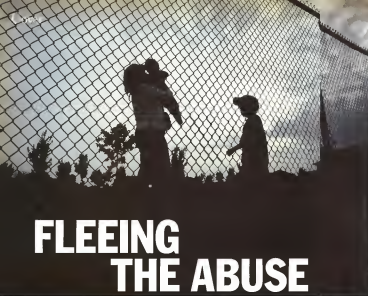
which police can consult at any hour. Newly issued orders are compared daily against a list of men who hold firearms acquisition certificates, most with guns who are subject to restraint orders may be required to give up their weapons. The province also gives citizenship to women believed to be in particular danger, to let them call for help if they are attacked.

Boyd takes issue with none of it. He would clearly like to see society go further. In particular, the criminologist argues that popular culture, from the movies to the National Hockey League, should "stop glorifying male violence." The conservative theme is surprising from an academic home known for liberal views (Boyd has argued for years that drug prohibition creates a violence underground). But it received strong support last week from four influential U.S. groups. In a joint statement citing 30 years of research, the American Medical and Psychological Associations and the Academies of Pediatrics and of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, declared: "Viewing mainstream violence can lead to increases in aggressive attitudes, values and behaviors."

Yet popular culture is just that popular. Boys and girls imitate on messages equally. So how is it that boys grow into killers 10 times more often than girls? If the answer is not testosterone, then what? Boyd acknowledges he does not know. At the same time, he calls academics and social-policy makers who ignore the role of biology in male violence "correction, heads well buried in the sand." Pointing to a wave of research in recent years establishing that "men's and women's brains are wired very differently," Boyd concludes that "in as long as we misunderstand this problem of male aggression, we will continue to suffer from its consequences."

But we will not do that equally, as Statistics Canada's science and the gritty files of Homicide Units, Gilman Hadley, Barbara Lutz and her four children, and so many more like them across the country and across the decades prove. Men will kill and injure. Women and children will do the suffering.

With *Men's Rage* in Toronto



FLEEING THE ABUSE

By Cheryl Hawkes

It could be the front door of any house in any Canadian city. But when a reporter comes calling, it is clear this is no ordinary home. Staff inside carefully check the appointment books, as each visitor looks into the security camera and speaks into the microphone. Security is tight at this battered women's shelter located innocuously inside a cluster of middle-class houses. And with good reason. "Women here once, accidentally, let in a man disguised as a woman. His wife was inside and he wanted to enter her home. On another occasion, a uniformed police officer investigating a missing person report turned out to be on a personal mission, trying to track down his own battered wife. The staff called his division and he did not get in. Sometimes, female relatives come looking for a sister or daughter to urge her to give up and go back to her abusive husband."

Inside the house, mothers, babies and children share space with elderly women fleeing domestic violence and homeless women fleeing the streets. Everyone's life is on hold. Everyone is afraid. Everyone, staff included, asks that real names not be used. "We've had every type here," says Myers, a counselor, as she leads a victim down to a basement playroom. "From the richest of the rich to the poorest of poor." Downstairs, two young women sit on a couch, modeling themselves to sell their wares, to shed some light on who comes here and why. Janice is here with her 17-month-old daughter. Michelle is an 8-month pregnant. A third woman has spread out, having changed her mind about talking, even anonymously. She is in the process of officially changing her identity after fleeing from another province and still cannot believe she is even seriously safe.

In one typical shelter for battered women, everyone is afraid, everyone's life is on hold

Janice, a slight and attractive 22-year-old, married her boyfriend a couple of months before the baby's birth. She did so even though "he'd completely changed" when he learned she was pregnant. "He was scared," she explains. "A baby didn't fit into his plans and he was angry." As she struggles to explain why the married man who was already pushing her down stairs and pulling her hair, she sobs to terrible and weep. "This is just so hard to talk about." Throughout their marriage, Janice and her baby shared between her own home, where her husband constantly punched, kicked and crucified her, and her parents' home. But it was hardly a sanctuary. "My dad abused my mom for years. I grew up in a very violent home. My mom's attitude is well, 'I went through hell and survived. You can do it, too.' She doesn't want me to leave my husband and let people know this is our family."

Janice was raised on a steady diet of rage. "My mom and dad used to go at it and I would jump on my dad's back, picking up for my mom." She also has scars on her face from fights with her three brothers. "They are all violent. If

I banged into one of them, he'd just start attacking me. That's how we were. Because of all the anger, everything we saw "That childhood prepared her to fight back." When her husband attacked her, she just got crazy on him. I would kick him back, scratch him. But he could always overpower me. And gradually it was getting worse." Sometimes, she says, the worst abuse was not physical, but emotional. "I would just sit on the couch, the couch." He was always putting me down. I was stupid. I was ugly. I couldn't do anything right, not even sweep the floor. From the minute I woke up, the way I dressed, the way I did my hair. I have some stretch marks from the baby—so Janice, I was just fat and ugly. All my friends were horrible. They were all "Woe." They were all "Uglier." And when they came over, I'd feel uncomfortable, ashamed of the way I was living."

She gradually realized that her marriage was a repeat of her parents'. "That's why that had to get out, for my daughter's sake. I'm just trying to stop the cycle."

Michelle also grew up in a household in physical and emotional

abuse. Her parents "went at each other with benches knives." A married older sister, who died in an automobile accident when she was several months pregnant with her third child, "moved from shelter to shelter to shelter" trying to escape an abusive husband who threatened her with a rifle. "Why she went back to him all the time, I'll never know." As for Michelle, it is her second stay in a hotel. The first was during her brief marriage to a violent and abusive soldier. "He wouldn't let me go to the bathroom without following me there," she says. "He didn't like it when I got together with friends. When I left him once in the middle of the night, he found out where I was staying and broke the door down."

Now pregnant by another man, she returned to her parents' home, determined to escape her abusive and controlling boyfriend. "He threatened to steal the baby." Her mother, an alcoholic, offered as sympathy, several insisting that she have an abortion and bearing her constantly. But the solution to her problems, Michelle says, was to have her baby, move to another city to live with a second sister and avoid relationships with men altogether. "I have a habit of attracting the worst kind of man. I'm not used to men who are nice to me. I know it of about myself, but it's hard to control. I'm used to arguing, to defending myself, to always being on guard." She has no idea what a good man would look like or how he would treat her. "There's good men, I think. Maybe they're chubby? Maybe it's just a guy thing to eventually become abusive."

For Myers, who has counseled scores of women in her time working in the shelter, the studies are all too familiar. Women like Michelle and Janice, who have grown up in abusive, temperamental homes, are part of a culture of abuse, says Myers. "I think what we have to do with abuse is nip it in the bud," she adds. That, of course, is no easy task. "Michelle had 23 years of abuse," says Myers. "That is so hard! So now, she has to go into counseling and understand everything that she has learned. We see a lot of people returning to the shelter—so we know that it's not working."

The decision to attempt a fresh start can grow more difficult as children get older. "Young children love it here—there's so many kids to play with," says Myers. "But when you come with older kids, especially teenagers, they have to change schools and go to our local school. They're miserable. So they really pressure mom to go back home. They'll say, 'Let's just live with it.' And mom is really on. Mothers want to fix things, to nurture their children. So if it means taking abuse to make their children happy, they'll do it." And pray the prize. ■

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Films

Escaping the doldrums

Brian D. Johnson

Seeking shelter from *The Prefect Swan?* Loath to sink to the depths of *What Lies Beneath?* Looking for something less pathetic than *The Mirror*, more exotic than *K-11*, scarier than *Nasty Professor II*, *The Khmer*? During the summer doldrums of the movie season, there is some relief in sight, at least for those in major cities. This month, three independent films from abroad provide compelling alternatives to Hollywood: England's *Wonderland*, China's *Shower* and India's *The Tisser*.

Wonderland, an ensemble drama set in working-class South London, unfolds as a symphony of bleak lives. A woman shops for love in the personals and takes the bus home after a one-night stand. A man fleeing commitment fails to buy supermarket flowers for his pregnant girlfriend. A harpy father neglects his son. This is a world of brags, junkies and barking dogs, a film about all the lonely people.

Mining a vein well-trodden by companion *Mike Leigh* and *Ken Loach*, British director Michael Winterbottom (*Julie, Knowles & Son*) puts his own spin on midlife realism. He brings lyrical flair to gritty, hard-boiled photography, and allows an offbeat score by Michael Nyman to break through the emotional overcast. Spanning a single weekend, the story focuses on three men, expertly played by Gino McKee, Shirley Henderson and Candice Molly Parker, who officiate a Rowless South London scene as a woman about to go into labour. In a childbirth scene to end all childbirth scenes, Parker shows a scorching power and rage, delivering a scorching catharsis that makes *Wonderland* only worthy of its title.

Shower offers more whimsical fare. Winning half a dozen awards on the festival circuit—including the international critics' award in Toronto—it is a sweet, delicate comedy set in a Chinese bathhouse. The single story concerns a wealthy young businessman who converts his working-class room when he comes home to his old neighbourhood in Beijing. There, his benevolent father and racially challenged brother run a traditional bathhouse that serves as a male social club for the community.

Shower's atmosphere is set to heat-warming, and the story flows as peacefully as water down a drain: the only ray of concern for his father's world gradually dawns in the course of a family crisis, while the bathhouse faces demolition. The movie's appeal, however, goes beyond its quiet plot and tender sentiments. Peeling small moments and desirable reflections, it evokes a precious sense of vanishing time and place.

The Tisser is about a more violent transformation. Fiercely poetic and utterly original, this is pure drama of loss and war that is clarifying from beginning to end. Shot in 16 days for just \$91,000, it is expertly photographed by Indian cinematographer Sanjay Swam, who also directed and co-wrote *Acce* (John Malkovich saw *The Tisser* while on a festival jury in Cairo, and



McKee (left), Henderson, Parker, a childbirth scene to end all childbirth scenes

was so impressed he became its patron—the film is "passed" by him).

Inspired by the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in 1991, the story is set in Sri Lanka and centres on a young Tamil woman who becomes a suicide bomber. At 19, Moli (Ayesha Dharker) is a veteran fighter, a child of war who is able to kill without hesitation. But as she cranks from the jungle to the city to assassinate an unnamed VII, a dangerous vulnerability threatens her role as "a thinking bomb."

With bags, devastating eyes, Dharker is a mesmerizing and largely silent presence. Swathes of carnage, deciphering the jungle with guerrilla smarts, shifts from intense close-ups of her face to luminous images of leaves and water. The politics, meanwhile, are presented without moral judgment as Moli closes in on her assignment. There is a terrible beauty in this film, reminiscent of Michael Ondaatje's novel *Anil Ghose*, which captures a woman's peace and her compassion in the Sri Lankan civil war. Exploding with the thrill of uncompromising art, *The Tisser* is the ultimate antidote to death by Hollywood. ■

Charming the savage breast

After two years of preparation, Ottawa's National Arts Centre Orchestra is in the final stages of planning an unprecedented trip to the Middle East. The 31-year-old institution is going where no Canadian orchestra has ever gone before—Israel, the Palestinian Authority and Jordan. There will be concerts in Tel Aviv and Amman, and—far more unusual for an orchestral tour—musical schools and workshops in the Palestinian territories. Both the educational aspect and the destination are dear to the heart of NACO's kind-born music director Pinchas Zukerman, who was instrumental in smoothing the way for the tour. Teaching is another form of listening: the 52-year-old director once said, And Zukerman, who joined the 46-member orchestra last year, was eager to bring music and its healing gifts to a troubled region.



Zukerman: going where no Canadian orchestra has gone

"Through the consciousness of adult audiences and young people," he said of the orchestra's forthcoming visit, "music speaks across cultural boundaries to a greater understanding and respect, and helps to make our world a better place."

Kitchen warfare

Chefs are eating up Sunday evening televised cooking contests on the Food Network's Iron Chef. The bubbly dubbed Japanese show—which exhibits elements of kung fu, knife work, WWF showbiz glimmer and elite gourmet cooking—features expert chefs from around the



world. They can't compete against the clock, as well as each other, to create original dishes from a specially chosen theme ingredient. A recent winner of a competition between Japan's Masaharu Morimoto and New York celebrity chef Bobby Flay drew an audience of 250,000 viewers in Canada—nearly double the number specialty channels attract for even blockbuster movies.

Art

A century and a half after Paul Kane made his epic journey from the Great Lakes to the Pacific, Toronto's Royal Ontario Museum is mounting a major exhibition of his art. Back in Toronto from his three-year trek in 1848, Kane turned 700 drawings of Indians from



Optimal settlement on Lake Huron

80 First Nations into more than 100 paintings. Paul Kane: Land Study. Studio View, shows the artist's evolution from ethnographer to Romantic painter of Canadian aboriginals.

The incredible shrinking broadcaster

Describing the CBC's slow attrition as death by a thousand cuts hardly seems so dramatic to the beleaguered national public broadcaster. Last week, the network announced yet another round of staff cuts to local newscasts across Canada. In all, 212 employees will get the ax, joining the 175 who

lost their jobs in February. Even so, the network expects an annual budget shortfall of \$30 million by the fiscal year ending in 2003. ABC CBC president Robert Bahnsen said there will be further reductions, even as he described his network as being "already" on life-support.



chapters, he said—if a minimum of 75 per cent of those downsizing is opt to pay \$1.50 each. Some 78 per cent of the first 40,000 readers—the only figures available so far—did so. King's chapter of stories for his first venture into independent publishing is slyly appropriate. The *Plant* is the tale of a controversial visit that seems to consume a small publishing house, its home or perhaps?

The vine that ate publishers

However terrifying it may be for conventional bookclans, Stephen King first seem to be going along with the horror author's vision of the future of publishing. King posted the first chapter of his novel *The Plant* on his Web site, www.stephenking.com, and will continue doing so, chapter by

Best Sellers

Fiction		LAST WEEK
1. THE NIGHT (Michael Ondaatje) 9/11	1	2
2. THE HOUSE ON BAYVIEW (Barbara Lee) 12	4	
3. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
4. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
5. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
6. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
7. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
8. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
9. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
10. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
Nonfiction		
1. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
2. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
3. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
4. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
5. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
6. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
7. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
8. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
9. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	
10. THE HOUSE (Michael Ondaatje) 12	3	

(*) Weeks in the
Copyright © Bruce Balfour

A brilliant road trip

On April 16, 1955, pathologist Thomas Harvey removed the brain from the just-deceased body of Albert Einstein—and kept it. In 1997, freelance journalist Michael Posner tracked down Harvey and his prized possession in Princeton, N.J. *Drawing Mr. Albert* (Delacorte) is the writer's engrossing account of making the then 84-year-old doctor on a 10-day journey to California to see Einstein's peopled grandchildren, Evelyn. In Posner's subtle and very funny book, the story of the trip as a retired *Grey Matter* with the celebrated grey matter safely ensconced in a Tupperware container is the thread, becomes a biography of Einstein and Harvey, past merriment and past meditation on the nature of genius. A highlight is a hair-raising visit with Harvey's old Kansas neighbor, and another and profoundly sensed best novelist William S. Burroughs



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They Might Be Giants

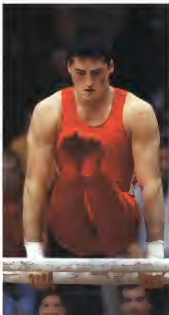
First-time Canadian Olympians get ready to take sport's ultimate test

Few Olympic champions ever win in their first trip to the Games. Most athletes struggle with the crushing pressure that goes with competing in the every-four-years event before they can hope to take their places atop the podium. Still, what they learn from their initial Olympic experiences can lay the foundation for future glory. As a result, Canadian team officials at the Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia, next month will be monitoring their rookies for telling signs of latent greatness—poise under pressure, a personal best, or an unexpected top 10.

The athletes profiled on these pages, all highly ranked internationally, are among the dreams of first-timers who will be wearing the Maple Leaf in Sydney. They are not household names, but that could soon change.

Alexander Jeltkov

Alexander Jeltkov is big for a gymnast. In disciplines such as the rings, his five-foot, 10-inch, 165-lb. frame actually impedes his chances for success. Not so on the horizontal bars. The 22-year-old finished second in the event last fall at the world champs in Taipei, China, making him Canada's best hope for a gymnastics medal in Sydney. Jeltkov, who moved with his family to Montreal in 1993 from Saint George's, quickly impressed Canadian coaches with his physical abilities and quick thinking. The latter attribute was apparent in China, where he missed a dismount during his routine on the horizontal bars that might have dropped him out of the competition, but he made up for it by adding a more complicated move that he had practiced but never performed in competition—a back somersault with a half turn over the bar. He will need all of his talents to reach his goals in Sydney. "Obviously, I'd like to win a medal," he says, "but most of all, I just want to perform my best. Hopefully that will be enough to win a medal."



Genevieve Jeanson

By winning last year's world junior championships in both the time trial and the 65-km road race, Lachine, Que.-native Genevieve Jeanson instantly became an athlete to watch. This season, the 18-year-old quickly dispelled any doubts about whether she could make the transition from the junior ranks to the top leagues. She won an April race in Belgium and currently sits in fifth place overall on the World Cup circuit. The highlight of her year, though, came last month at the Canadian championships in Peterborough, Ont., where she clinched an Olympic team berth for both the road and time-trial events in Sydney. "This is a very exciting moment for me," Jeanson said after the national's. "I was pretty nervous before the race, but I was able to control myself." Though still young by the standards of her sport, Jeanson said her Olympic dream was a long time coming. "I made a firm decision when I was 15, I would put everything I had into the sport and that I would one day go to the Olympics." And so she will.

Claire Carver-Dias and Fanny Létourneau

In a sport that rewards minor strides, the secret behind the success of synchronized swimmers Fanny Létourneau and Claire Carver-Dias is, in fact, their differences. The 21-year-old Létourneau, from Montreal, is a self-confessed "perfectionist" who sweats the details, whereas Carver-Dias, Létourneau says, is "more into the look of the performance." Thanks in part to those traits—and a lot of hard training—the pair will go to Sydney ranked fourth in the world. "We complement each other," says Carver-Dias, 23. "And we have a lot of drive."

There has been a relatively meteoric rise. Carver-Dias, of Mississauga, Ont., lost her original civil partner, Estelle Warren, when Warren opted for what has become a huge career as a model and actress. National-team coach Sheilagh Cronin saw enough



similarities in Létourneau's swimming style to suggest her as Warren's replacement. Carver-Dias had to trust her coach—"It's a reminder of Fanny was that she was quiet and young," she says. That was in February, 1998; now they are best friends. "It has been easy to get along," says Létourneau. "Besides," adds Carver-Dias, "we both want the same thing—a medal at the Olympics."

Olympics

Kwaku Boateng

Going into 2000, the biggest event of high-jumper Kwaku Boateng's year was not supposed to be the Summer Games. The 26-year-old Montserratian and his wife were expecting their first child on March 14, but son Kwaidan arrived in December, 1999, nearly four months early. Thanks to the miracles of modern medicine, little Kwaidan has grown from less than a pound to a robust 14 lb., while his dad has been leaping to new heights. Boateng, a native of Ghana, had a personal best of 2.29 m going into this season, well below the world record of 2.45 m. But he cleared 2.34 m at the World Games in June, tying the third-best jump of the year worldwide and establishing him as a medal contender in Sydney. "It was a surprise to me," he says of his newfound consistency. "I was not expecting to jump so high this early in the season."

Boateng, who was at a meet in Norway last week with fellow high-jumper Mark Boswell, the current Canadian champion, says his responsiveness could hurt him in Sydney. But his enthusiasm seems boundless. "It's my first time, and I'm having so much fun even before the Olympics begin," he says. "I can't wait to get there."



Mike Mintenko

Swimming has taken Mike Mintenko away from his family home in Moose Jaw, Sask., for most of the last six years. The hulking butterfly specialist first went to the University of Nevada at Las Vegas on an athletic scholarship. After graduating, he moved to Vancouver to train at the Pacific Dolphins Swim Club under national team boss Dave Johnson. All the while, his competition schedule has taken him around the world, but it hasn't separated him from his roots. "It's great to experience

all of this, go to all these places," he says. "And it's just so great going back to Moose Jaw and sharing it with the people at home." Mintenko, 24, is excited about his next major trip, particularly since July 16 is a meet at Los Angeles, where he twice broke the Canadian 100-m butterfly record. "That was a big day for me," he says. "I had had that as a goal all year." He is less forthcoming about his Olympic aspirations. "I'm not putting any pressure on myself to win," he says. "But at the same time, I want to go there and achieve something, for myself and for my country."

Blythe Hartley

North Vancouver diver Blythe Hartley comes by her athleticism honestly—her dad, Michael, was a member of Canada's Olympic five-event bobbsleigh team in 1972. But even with that background, the talented 18-year-old admits she's unsure what to expect in Sydney. "So I'm just trying to go in and do my best," she says, "and then see what happens." In 1999, her best was good enough to win the one- and 10-metre events at the world junior diving championships in Czech Republic. "She's really a solid up-and-comer," says national team head coach Mitch Geller, "and a very good three-metre diver." Geller officials, who would be pleased if Hartley finished in the top 10 in the three-metre springboard event in Sydney, figure she and her training partner in Calgary, team veteran Eryn Bulmer, could contend for a medal in the three-metre synchronized competition—the two finished second at two recent international meets. Hartley modestly downplays those expectations. "It happens so quickly and you can make a mistake so easily," she says. But she adds: "We do have the potential to do well."



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Allan Fotheringham

A slap on the Royal wrist

This is what happens in real life. Somebody, probably named Charlie, owns a car dealership in Edmonton or Hamilton or New Westminster.

He has 10 salesmen and three of them are his real heroes. They top his sales charts each week. It is quite simple why they do so. Every Friday night, six hours or so before closing, they fill the sales lot with their cars. Just guess: a 300 bucks or 500 bucks for the lot, customers.

They are so lucky that a police sweep later reveals they broke that George, the faithful security man at the car firm, is so dumb he will never catch them.

Somebody squeals, Charlie finds out, goes ballistic and fires all three. The cops are called, charges are laid and somebody goes to the street: he's called a fraud.

That's what happens in real life. In Fantasyland, otherwise known as the Toronto Stock Exchange, that is what happens.

The Royal Bank, the largest bank in Canada, has a pension arm called RT Capital Management. Nine of its finest, who work at one of the highest business towers in Toronto and not on a Hamilton car lot, are caught jacking the value of stocks.

Insiders say a cop according actually catches one of them boasting that a cheap called Winchester, RT's faithful security man for 30 years, is too dumb ever to catch them. Guess what? Winchester catches them.

One week goes by. Two weeks go by. There is complete silence from the No. 1 office of the gold-encrusted tower on Front Street. Royal boss John Cleghorn, Bay Street's poster boy of integrity, says nothing.

Finally, as the world gears, Moses comes down from the Mount. Cleghorn "apologizes" to all the flustered who had stuck their sticks in the Royal's vaults all those years rather than buying them in a gas pit in the back 40. The Toronto Star, no word for of guffing copolitan, announces breathlessly that this is an "unprecedented" action by a Canadian bank chairman.

And the nine? They go behind closed doors of the Ontario Securities Commission. No reporters there. No representatives of the public. They emerge, before the waiting cameras, looking for all the world like Mafiosi, heads down, one of them in dark shades, hoping they can be the director or their waiting limo before the ployage.



Six of the nine, most all millionaires, from Burnside-Foster Hill suit, are allowed to "sneak" or "retire." The only one who will utter a word, as they use the convenience to the division, is headhonor Timothy Griffin, president and chief executive officer of RT Capital Management, who says, "RT can get back to business, which is all pretty well for a long time." Well, I guess so, and now we know why.

Would the public be for the snafu if it thought it smelled a fraud? But no cops are called. No criminal charges are laid. No one goes to the daisies. Thank the way things work in Fantasyland.

The scandal? One national headline reads "Royal Bank unit to pay millions in OSC penalties." It is to laugh. The mighty Royal is fined all of \$5 million. The mighty Royal just happened to have paid John Cleghorn \$6.7 million last year. That's how seriously Bay Street takes Bay Street shenanigans.

Another headline: "Shocks senior people through Bay Street." Why should they? According to the OSC, the \$5 high-dosing jacking incident in the RT one soared the market value of stocks by a total of \$412 million.

Business columnist Matthew Leggett writes, "A \$5-million penalty for a company of RT Capital's size is a joke, and not a very funny one. The Royal Bank probably spends more than that every month on bribes to sporting events for its top-tier clients."

We want more business? The nine were fined up to a grand total of \$8,000 each, which is the equivalent of what top Bay Street executives spill over lunch every month. Meet RT chairman Michael Edwards—former member of the TSE board of governors, past chairman of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and member of the Day Commission on Corporate Governance—got off with a reprimand, a one-month suspension and the massive \$8,000 fine. An industry insider described the fine as no worse than some people's annual permit for parking tickets. After his short suspension, Edwards will return to RT Capital as a director. Some write-up.

Clearly, it smells a lot of things have been committed here. But Bay Street, with its own to-beat cop, the OSC, keeps things cozy and under wraps.

In a statement, Seven-Million-Dollar Man Cleghorn says "The enforcement clearly indicates that all of the parties have taken the matter seriously." The enforcement, as any person can detect, clearly indicates the opposite.

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